OSWESTRY & BORDER
CHRONICLE

Thursday, December 25, 2014 www.oswestrychronicle.com Price when sold 50p mna media

Collision leads to calls for changes

FRESH calls have been made for urgent changes to Welshpool's controversial one-way system after two elderly sisters were left with serious injuries following a collision with a car.

Moy Jones and Mona Broxton, of Welshpool, were hit by a car when they were crossing Church Street in the town. Mrs Jones suffered a broken leg, while Mrs Broxton suffered a broken arm.

Mrs Jones's daughter, Dianne Jones, has called for action.

She said:"They both could have been killed and I am so grateful that this isn't a fatal accident.

"The system which we have now got in town is not satisfactory, especially for elderly people. It has not been satisfactory since day one.

"Church Street is very dangerous and has been an accident waiting to happen. Is this what it takes for changes to be made, or will someone have to be killed?"

Mrs Jones added: "As a driver of 30 years experience, it is a shambles when you have traffic trying to merge and cross over in a space of 50 yards."

Changes have been recommended by Powys County Council including a box junction in Church Street, while Welshpool Town Council has called for the system to be subject to a 20mph speed limit

MP tells of power plans' toll on public

PLANS to build windfarms and electricity pylons across Mid Wales and Shropshire are causing "stress and fear", MP Glyn Davies has said.

A public inquiry is looking into plans for five wind turbines while National Grid is planning a power line stretching from northern Powys to Welsh Frankton, near Oswestry.

But Mr Davies, MP for Montgomeryshire, said the issue threatened to "desecrate the landscapes of our beautiful countryside".

Mr Davies said National Grid and wind farm developers "have caused more unhappiness, stress, division and genuine fear than anything else I can recall in my lifetime".

Exams joy for village primary school

Youngsters at Gobowen Primary School prepare for their nativity play

FESTIVE fever has hit schools throughout the Oswestry and Welshpool areas with many staging traditional nativity plays to celebrate Christmas.

Among them was Gobowen Primary School which had a further reason to celebrate after rising 46 places to reach second place in the latest Shropshire school league table following impressive key stage two SAT results.

Every one of the 13 Year 6 pupils who took the tests gained level four or above in reading, writing and maths.

School headteacher Lucy Luke said: "The school has been in a period of rapid change and improvement over the past 16 months, with a greater emphasis being placed on providing a more creative curriculum and giving pupils greater responsibility for driving their own learning forward.

"A more targeted use of assessment and data has ensured that children are able to make rapid and sustained progress.

"Governors have risen to the challenge of improving the school.

"The monitoring committee and link governor visits are working well.

"They recognise they are now better informed by leaders and are beginning to be more challenging in holding them to account for the impact of their actions.

"The successes that are being seen are down to the commitment of children, staff, parents and governors in driving forward and embedding the vision of the school, which is paramount if we are to sustain the improvements that we have already seen in such a short space of time.

"Leaders recognise this is only the start of the journey and have appropriate plans in place to take the school forward further."

Other schools placed in the top 20 in the league table included Morda Primary School in 11th place, West Felton School in 12th place, Trefonen School in 16th place and Chirbury School in18th place.

DOUBLE ROADS DEATH TRAGEDY

TWO people have died in two days after separate crashes on roads near Oswestry.

By Andrew Morris

The first tragedy happened on Wednesday when a man died after the van he was driving was involved in a crash with a lorry on the A5.

The second death happened after a crash on Thursday at Woolston Bank near Oswestry when a car collided with a garden wall.

The tragedy on Wednesday, which happened just south of the A5 Gledrid roundabout, was the second fatality on the same stretch of road in a month.

The 35-year-old man who died in the collision has not been named by police, while the lorry driver is not believed to have been injured.

Steve Parry, spokesman for West Midlands Ambulance Service spokesman, said: "We were called to the incident on the A5 between Gobowen and Gledrid just after 9.35am.

"A paramedic in a rapid response vehicle together with a paramedic officer and resources from the Welsh Ambulance Service including the Welsh Air Ambulance attended the scene.

"Crews attended a road traffic collision involving a van and lorry.

"Sadly, it quickly became apparent that nothing could be done to save a male patient who was confirmed dead at the scene."

The road was closed for several hours while emergency crews dealt with the incident.

Last month Peter Oleszkiewicz, from Wrexham, died when his Peugeot 307 was involved in a collision with a lorry on the A5 between the Halton roundabout at Chirk and the Ruabon junction.

Chirk councillor Ian Roberts said the collision at Gledrid was another tragedy for the area.

He said: "It is a tragedy at any time of the year and it is so sad to hear of another fatal crash on our area's roads.

"A lot has been tried to make the roads safer but I think the A5 should be made a dual carriageway because of the lay-out of it at the moment is so dangerous."

Meanwhile, a woman died after her car crashed into a garden wall on the corner of Woolston Bank near Oswestry shortly before 4pm on Thursday, the victim being declared dead at the scene.

Claire Brown, a West Midlands Ambulance Service spokeswoman, said: "When the ambulance staff arrived, they found a car which had been involved in a significant collision with a garden wall.

"Sadly, it quickly became apparent that nothing could be done to save the single occupant of the car, a woman, and she was confirmed dead on scene."

Police say that close family of the woman have been informed.

The road was closed between Maesbury and Knockin for a number of hours and was reopened by 7.30pm.

Anyone who witnessed the incident is urged to contact police on 101 quoting incident 437 of December 18.

Councillor Ian Roberts

Raids at houses sparking worries

ELDERLY people feel unsafe in their homes after recent terrifying burglaries in the Oswestry area where raiders have confronted their victims, the town's mayor has said.

The worries have peaked after three men broke into an 80-year-old woman's house in College Road and rifled through her possessions while she was in bed before waking her to tell her she had been burgled.

The thieves broke into the house at about 7pm on Wednesday evening last week and searched for valuables before going upstairs to tell the victim there had been a break-in.

It follows a daytime burglary last month in Gobowen when an 86-year-old woman was locked in a room by four men as they searched her home.

Oswestry Mayor Councillor John Gareth Jones, who is also the chairman of the Oswestry Senior Citizens club in Lorne Street, said: "I was at the club this weekend and sadly the talk was all about the burglary in College Road. People are really worried.

"Your house is the one place where you should feel safe."

Oswestry police are urging people to adopt the latest crime prevention Lighten Up campaign, reminding residents that their home is less likely to be burgled if it appears occupied.

Hearing over rail crash is adjourned

THE trial of a man charged with endangering the safety of train passengers and crew following a rail crash near Welshpool has been adjourned.

The trial of John Elwyn Roberts, 74, of Oldford Rise, Welshpool, who denies the charge, was due to start at Mold Crown Court.

Judge Niclas Parry was told the defendant was in hospital and he adjourned the case until January. The crash between the train and a tractor and trailer occurred at a farm crossing close to Buttington Hall on July 16. The charge alleges Roberts endangered railway users following the crash between the train and the trailer.

Shannon Sales
Furniture and Carpets
OPEN MONDAY - SATURDAY
Let us make your house a home this Christmas!
Visit your local indpendent Furniture & Carpet store
Shannon Sales, Chirk LL14 5NA Tel:01691 773257

PICTURE PREVIEW

Why was "singing astronaut" Chris Hadfield in Oswestry? Find out on Page 28.

CONTACT US

Have you got a story or an event you want covered? The Oswestry Chronicle has a team of staff who can help:

Associate Editor: Iain St John
01691 668094
news@oswestrychronicle.co.uk

Reporter: Pam Kingsley 01691 668098
pam.kingsley@shropshirestar.co.uk

Reporter: Sue Austin 01691 668099
sue.austin@shropshirestar.co.uk

Sport: Dave Cooper 01952 241475
dave.cooper@shropshirestar.co.uk

Oswestry and Welshpool Photographic
01691 668094

Regional sales manager:
Alison Jukes: 01743 283330
alison.jukes@shropshirestar.co.uk

Advertising:
Marcus Evans: 01691 668095
marcus.evans@shropshirestar.co.uk
Beverley Thompson: 01691 668092
beverley.thompson@shropshirestar.co.uk
Andy Eilledge: 01691 668090
andy.eilledge@shropshirestar.co.uk
Distribution: 01902 319537
p.jones@expressandstar.co.uk

14 Salop Road, Oswestry
SY11 2NU
www.oswestrychronicle.com

Business looks to expand again in investment drive

By Thom Kennedy

A WEB hosting business says it hopes to continue its growth drive with further acquisitions after adding an Essex-based business to its stable.

Planet Hippo Internet in Oswestry recently bought out Essex-based i4 Visual Media's database of hosted service customers.Now the firm says it is actively looking to continue its recent investment drive.

The firm says it wants to add to its hosted services business, and in doing so to further extend its reach across the UK.

Managing director Darren Lavender said he was inviting interested companies to get in touch.

"We are keen to talk to web design service companies across the UK that want focus on their businesses on the provision of high quality web design solutions without the burden of also supporting a hosting service for clients," he said.

"Having experienced more than 100 per cent growth in the number of users over the last year, Planet Hippo is making a significant ongoing investment in building new datacentres to maintain its position at the front-line of the developing Cloud-based hosting market and ensure that customers have a reliable and resilient hosting service for their web operations."

Planet Hippo provides UK-based, super-fast web hosting services and customer service.

"The market is seeing an increasing number of digital agencies outsourcing their web hosting divisions to state-of-the art, award-winning companies such as Planet Hippo," Mr Lavender added.

Hours of opening at care unit extended

THE opening hours of Oswestry Minor Injuries Unit (MIU) have been extended for the next three weekends.

Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust, which runs MIUs in the county, will open the unit in Oswestry from 8.30am until 6pm this weekend (December 20-21) as well as December 27-28 and on January 3-4. Oswestry MIU usually closes at 1pm at weekends.

MIUs are staffed by experienced nurses and patients that attend one of the units will be assessed and treated as quickly as possible.

Andy Matthews, divisional manager of community hospitals and outpatient services. said: "MIUs can offer help with a whole range of injuries, including cuts and lacerations; bites; foreign bodies in the eyes, nose and ears; wound infections; assessment of fractures; minor head injuries and burns".

Minor Injuries Units can also be found in Bridgnorth, Whitchurch and Ludlow and Welshpool and Newtown.

Flooding hits area after downpour

Land around the Buttington area near Welshpool was affected by the floods

FIELDS around Welshpool and Oswestry turned into lakes after heavy rain downpours hit the area.

Some rural roads were also affected by the adverse weather conditions, with many impassable.

The Environment Agency issued flood warnings and flood alerts in various parts of the region following heavy rain on Thursday night last week.

Areas affected included communities along the River Vyrnwy near Oswestry including Maesbrook and Melverley,.

Around Welshpool the A458 was closed in both directions between the town and Mallwyd, Machynlleth, where much of the road follows the route of the River Banwy, while land in the Buttington area was also flooded. The A490 running past Welshpool Airport was also forced to close, although some drivers ignored signs and found themselves stranded in the water.

The A490 was also closed both ways in Churchstoke between the A489 junction and the B4386.

And the B4386 between Welshpool and Shrewsbury was only just passable at Westbury because of the flood water on the road.

The Moors straight, where work was carried out to raise the A483 and reduce the risk of flooding, remained open, but the river had burst its banks and flooded the fields either side of the road.

Rail passengers were also affected by the flooding as trains were unable to run between Machynlleth and Newtown. Replacement buses were in use but in some cases journey times were extended by 80 minutes.

At Wilcott, near Nesscliffe, drains failed to cope with the run off from fields nearby leading to the land becoming waterlogged. Likewise lanes between Kinton and Knockin Heath near Nesscliffe were also flooded.

OWENS REUNION - WILTSHIRE

Our 8th reunion takes us to the 4 star Hilton Hotel Swindon. We will visit beautiful locations of the Cotswolds, Wiltshire and the fabulous city of Cardiff and the steam railway museum in Swindon. And with around 180 fellow companions travelling together you should have plenty to talk about. The tour will allow new travellers to meet many of the wonderful people that have travelled with us over the years and our regulars to catch up with old friends. Coaches will have regionalised pick-ups so you will start off with something in common with your fellow travellers. There will be special one off deals on coach holidays booked and many prizes to be won.

Hilton Hotel, Swindon ★★★★
The perfect base for our Reunion tour. Guests can rejuvenate in the modern 171 comfortable guest rooms. A well equipped gym, a fabulous heated indoor pool, sauna and a beauty salon.

Tour Itinerary
Friday 30th: We travel via Worcester, Evesham, Morton-in-Marsh, Stow-on-the-Wold & Bourton-on-the-Water and finally onto the Hilton Hotel.
Saturday 31st: A tour into the heart of Wiltshire including Marlborough, Salisbury, and the charming Market town Devizes in the centre of the county. There is time to relax before your evening meal followed by tonight's live entertainment.
Sunday 1st: We head for the indoor steam museum of the Great Western Railway in the heart of the former Swindon Railway Works. In the afternoon you are invited to join the staff & managers of Owen's Travelmaster to talk to them about the forth coming 2015 summer brochure and enjoy afternoon cream tea followed by bingo with prizes and our Hope House charity raffle. There is time to relax before your meal followed by tonight's live entertainment.
Monday 2nd: We depart our hotel and head for Cardiff. The capital has a diversity of places and interests just waiting for its visitors to enjoy. After time for lunch we head for home.

4 DAY TOUR INCLUDES:
- All Travel by Executive Coach
- 3 Nights Dinner, Bed & Breakfast Accommodation
- 2 x Nights Live Entertainment
- 1 x Night In-house Entertainment
- Bingo & Raffle with prizes (All money Raised goes to Hope House)
- 2015 Discount Vouchers
- Afternoon Cream Tea
- Entry to the Great Western Railway Museum (Or spend time at the adjacent outlet village)

Single room supplement £30
4 DAYS 30th JAN – 2nd FEB £189

FREE MAILING AVAILABLE

Owen's Travelmaster
OSWESTRY 01691 652126
NEWTOWN 01686 626576
WHITCHURCH 01948 662361
SHREWSBURY 01743 770001
WREXHAM 01978 330003

Burn Right
Environmentally Friendly Wood Fuel

- Burn Right briquettes are made from **kiln dried** wood shaving and sawdust, **primarily hardwood** ie oak, sapele, beech. The best Briquettes are made from hardwoods as they produce more heat and burn for longer.

Prices from £3.50 per pack, please contact us for further information or to place an order.

Tel: 01691 830075
www.sandersonsecofuel.co.uk
Unit 2, The Village Workshops, Four Crosses Business Park, Four Crosses, Powys SY22 6ST

Tributes paid to property firm boss

TRIBUTES have been paid to one of the best known estate agents in Shropshire and the Welsh border who has died after a brave fight against cancer.

Stephen Powell was a residential director of Halls and manager of the company's Oswestry office since 1998. He set up the Stephen Powell Cancer Research Fund following the diagnosis of his illness two years ago and helped raise £16,500 before he died on December 1.

His widow, Rosemary, said: "Stephen never complained about why he had cancer; he just got on with it and was always planning ahead. When he was diagnosed two years ago, he set up a fund to raise money for oesophageal cancer research. His plan was to give the money directly to a researcher, so as to make the most impact.

"My abiding memories of Stephen are his vast knowledge of everyone and everything in Wales and Shropshire and his passion for Welsh culture. I have been overwhelmed by the messages of support that I have received, which are appreciated greatly."

Mr Powell lived in Llansilin near Oswestry with his wife, was born in Oswestry and brought up on the farm in the village of Carrog, near Corwen.

Join in the Turkey Trot

HOPE House Children's Hospice is challenging people to walk off their Christmas Day feasting by signing up for a sponsored Boxing Day Turkey Trot.

The event will start out from Criggion Village Hall at 11am on Boxing Day.

Entry forms are available from the Hope House fundraising office on (01691) 671671.

Developers call for homes in shadow of old hillfort

By Sue Austin

DEVELOPERS behind plans to build homes in the shadow of Oswestry's Iron Age hillfort have asked a Government inspector to include sites even closer to the ancient monument.

Inspector Claire Sherratt is looking at the site as part of her inquiry into Shropshire Council's plans to identify land for thousands of homes.

Objectors want the land, off Whittington Road, removed, but representatives from developers J10 said two more sites should be set aside for housing, one of which is directly under the hillfort.

Experts attended Tuesday's session at Shirehall to urge the inspector to protect the hillfort.

Dr George Nash of Bristol University, archaeologist and campaign advisor for the Hands Off Old Oswestry Hillfort group, said the land was irreplaceable.

He said it should expect as much protection as Stonehenge.

Another historian, Dr Rachel Pope, said: "This is one of the most important hillforts in Britain and the views to and from the site must be protected.

"These have not changed for 3,000 years and if this development is allowed it will be a very retrograde step. We are losing our concept of the past."

Both historians criticised English Heritage's decision not to object to building houses on the site on the Whittington Road.

However Justin Paul, representing the development company, said that it wanted three parcels of land in the area be included in the development document, known as SAMDev.

"The plan will bring a host of benefits to the town," he said.

Inspector Sherratt said she would be visiting the hillfort herself before deciding whether the parcels of land should be included in the plan.

Clive Roberts, an independent planning expert from Shropshire, told the session that it was wrong for parish councils to have a major say in whether their own area should have future development.

Mr Roberts said that in the Oswestry area West Felton Parish Council had announced it didn't want any development at all while Weston Rhyn said it should be a cluster with neighbouring villages.

"Both these villages should be named as hubs, which would mean more housing could be built," he said.

"They both have the services to make them sustainable."

"Instead there is now a great swathe of land in the rural area around Oswestry where developments will not be welcomed," Mr Roberts said.

Defendant spat at his ex-partner

A MAN who spat at his ex-girlfriend was told he had committed a "disgusting and insulting" offence by a magistrate.

Alex Edwards, 24, had told police he felt "ashamed with himself" when he was interviewed after the incident.

Edwards pleaded guilty to assault at Telford Magistrates Court.

He was sentenced to three months in prison but had already been in custody since October 20 - time that would be included in the sentence.

Miss Abigail Hall, prosecuting, said Edwards had been involved in an on-off relationship with the victim, however they had separated before the incident on September 20. Edwards had moved back in with his ex-partner in Gobowen near Oswestry. The court was told Edwards, of Garth Glyn Ceiriog, Llangollen, had 14 convictions for 20 offences and that the assault put him in breach of a conditional discharge and a community order.

Miss Ceri Lewis, for Edwards, said that her client had been in custody since October 20 for breaching bail conditions. She said her client had come off drugs and put on weight while in prison.

Magistrate David Styles said: "Spitting is on of the most disgusting and insulting things that can happen to an individual."

As well as the prison sentence, Edwards must pay £80 prosecution costs and a £85 victim surcharge. He was ordered to continue with his community order and work with the probation service.

Car overturns on rural road

The Nissan Pixo car was badly damaged in the crash near Montgomery

THIS is the mangled wreckage of a car which overturned on a country road, leaving its driver needing to be cut free from his vehicle and airlifted to hospital for treatment.

The man driving the black Nissan Pixo was airlifted to the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital after the crash on the B4386 between Chirbury and Marton, near Montgomery.

It is not known how serious his injuries are, but they have been described as non-life threatening by officials from the emergency services.

The accident happened shortly after 9am on Thursday and the man had to be cut free from the car when emergency services arrived. It is not believed any other cars were involved and the scene was clear by 11am.

In another accident, a woman had to be rescued from her car on Wednesday when it came off the road and ended up balancing on a grass verge on a country road near Ruyton-XI-Towns.

Fire crews were called to the crash on the road from Little Ness to Ruyton-XI-Towns at about 3.20pm to help the woman out the car.

No one was hurt in the incident.

And in another crash, police said a driver was lucky to escape serious injury after his car overturned near Shottaton crossroads.

The crash happened on Thursday night, causing traffic tailbacks.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Three arrested over drug claims

THREE men and a woman have been arrested over drug offences in Powys.

They were arrested on suspicion of possession with intent to supply a controlled drug of Class A and cultivation of cannabis at locations in Newtown and Welshpool. Police said a large amount of a substance believed to be a Class A drug was seized along with three separate seizures of cannabis plants, described as "substantial."

All four have been bailed pending further enquiries.

Inspector Darren Brown said: "These arrests once again show that police in Montgomeryshire are committed to dealing positively with drugs offences in the area.

"We will not tolerate drugs misuse and encourage members of our communities to report any suspicions to us."

Personalised gift idea from store

A PERSONALISED gift with a difference is expected to attract shoppers to Stans Superstore in St Martins on Tuesday.

The store is setting up a special area where personalised labels for Scotch whisky The Famous Grouse will be made up, so customers can buy a unique Christmas present.

Andrew Faulks, of Stans, said: "People can make up their own name for the bottle and even download a photo to go on the label. It is an ideal gift. The service will be available from 10am -3pm."

VE celebrations planned for town

RESIDENTS of Welshpool are being urged to have their say on how they want to celebrate VE Day.

Welshpool Town Council will be holding a big celebration to mark the 60th anniversary of Victory in Europe next year and is asking for the town's input.

E-mail suggestions can be sent to: wtcouncil@btinternet.com

Stoves and Fireplaces
from £395
EST OVER 30 YEARS saxon
Real fire heating from
saxon 01691 772153
FREE DELIVERY
www.saxonhomecare.co.uk
Gledrid, Near Oswestry LL14 5DG
* 6000 sq ft showroom * 30 mins from Shrewsbury & Chester * Open 7 days a week

Arrest is made after town pellet gun shooting drama

By Sue Austin

A MAN has been arrested and bailed by police after another man was injured in a suspected late night pellet gun shooting in Oswestry town centre.

A 25-year-old man required hospital treatment following the incident in the early hours of Friday last week. He called the emergency services on 999 from an address in Bailey Street to say he was injured.

Police officers arrived at the scene and cordoned off an alleyway just off the main shopping street and began investigations after the man was taken by ambulance to the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital for treatment by medical teams.

It was initially feared his injuries were life-threatening and police said he had been kept in hospital for observation.

A spokeswoman for West Mercia Police said: "A 27-year-old male who is from Oswestry, has been arrested on suspicion of grievous bodily harm.

"He was questioned and has been released on police bail."

The injured man called himself an ambulance and was taken to hospital.

Medical staff called police after the man said he had been the victim of a pellet gun assault and the injuries were consistent with his claim.

Operations and Communications Centre Inspector Ben Smith said: "The man's injuries are consistent with the use of a pellet gun and were initially believed to be life threatening

"So we are still trying to piece together his movements around the time he sustained the injury.

"We are keeping an open mind as to the scenario and circumstances in which he received that injury.

"But we would like to appeal for witnesses to what happened to contact police."

West Midlands Ambulance Service spokeswoman Clare Brown said: "We were called to reports of an assault just after 3am on Friday.

"The injured man made the call himself.

"Paramedics found the man had an injury to his head and he was taken to the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital."

Staff at Polka Dot Travel, next to the passageway, said they had been shocked when they arrived at work at 8.30am on Friday to find police outside.

Anyone who saw anything suspicious in Oswestry town centre on Thursday evening or in the early hours of Friday morning last week are asked to contact police on 101.

People should quote incident number 78 of December 12 or contact Crimestoppers on 0800 555111 or via www.crimestoppers-uk.org.

Man broke order rules court told

A ONCE-promising footballer whose life descended into alcoholism breached his restraining order and returned to his ex-wife's home because he was sleeping rough on the streets, a court was told.

Former Leeds United apprentice Carl Lewis, 37, pleaded guilty to two charges of harassment and breaching a restraining order when he appeared by video link at Telford Magistrates' Court .

Mrs Kate Price, prosecuting, said Lewis had been married for five years. However the victim described the marriage as being verbally and physically abusive.

Mrs Price said that after previous assaults on his ex-wife, the defendant had been given a restraining order on October 22.

She said that Lewis had breached the order on several occasions including a phone call that left the victim feeling "harassed and distressed".

Mrs Price said that Lewis, of Belle Vue, Morda, near Oswestry, had turned up at his ex-wife's house on November 30. Mrs Price said that the second charge of harassment related to abusive messages that the defendant has sent the victim on Facebook.

Lewis was sentenced to 13 weeks in prison, suspended for two years and ordered to pay £100 costs and an £80 victim surcharge.

Emma Lineton, for Lewis, said that the defendant was "a chronic alcoholic" whose drink problems had made him miss out on a career as a professional footballer.

Station improvement joy

Improvements have been carried out at Chirk Railway Station

AN enormous 100ft, 150 tonne crane has been dominating the skyline above a railway station as new access ramps and bridges are installed.

Contractors for Network Rail moved on to the site earlier this month to begin work on the £2 million project to provide better access to Chirk Station.

A new ramped footbridge is being installed at the station, giving wheelchair access to platform one for northbound trains for the first time. The crane was used to manoeuvre the new footbridge and its stairs and bridge deck into place.

The project will also provide accessible drop off point, disabled car park spaces, improved station signage and some new tactile paving. Christine Ashford, from the Friends of Chirk Station, said: "We are absolutely delighted.

"This will make a huge difference to the lives of the many passengers who use our award-winning station here in Chirk.

"The car park has had to be closed as the crane is there, and we have headaches with people not being able to park, but will be worth all the pain and disruption to see Chirk Station, at long last, open to all."

The programme is funded by £7 million from the Welsh Government and £5 million from the Department for Transport.

Chirk is one of five stations in Wales that has been granted money to provide access for all.

PUGHS FUNERAL DIRECTORS
Shropshire's traditional funeral directors on the banks of the River Severn
Shrewsbury's original family funeral directors are as much part of the local heritage as the River Severn.
From our offices and award-winning gardens on the banks of the River Severn at Coleham, Pughs have provided a highly personal and professional funeral service to families at their time of need for over 120 years.
FAS

50% OFF
EVERYTHING
SALE STARTS
Friday 19th December
at
Shoes By Camilla
Market Gate, Salop Rd, Oswestry, SY11 2NR
01691 655 007

Christmas Events at Whittington Castle
CHRISTMAS CRAFT STALLS
Sunday 21st December
10-4pm Free Entrance
Seasonal Food - Giftshop
FATHER CHRISTMAS GROTTO
Sunday Dec 21st 1-4pm
Meet Father Christmas
Tickets £3.50 to include gift & certificate
MINCE PIE TOURS
27/28th December 2014
and 2nd/3rd/4th January 2015.
All tours start at 12 noon.
Join your Guide for a historic walking tour of the Castle grounds and inside. Then warm up with a hot drink and mince pie or cake in our Tearoom.
COST £5 EACH.
TELEPHONE 01691 662500

B.Hawkins & Sons
FAMILY BUTCHERS
Est 1873
• Farm Reared Turkeys
• Locally reared Bronze Turkeys
• Free range Geese
• 28 day hung Beef
• Jamie Ward Pork
• Free range extra large roasting Chickens
• Local Game
• Jamie Ward's Free Range Pork
• Dry Cured Bacon
• Free Range Eggs
• Homemade Sausages and Burgers
CHRISTMAS ORDERS NOW BEING TAKEN
4 Cross St, Ellesmere, SY12 0AR
Tel: 01691 622329

You'll love the increased business!
We ♥ Advertising
Contact the Sales Team on 01691 668 095/090/092

We ♥ Advertising
Contact the Sales Team on 01691 668 095/090/092

Hotel to invest £800,000 in refurbishments project

By Pam Kingsley

A HOTEL and spa near Oswestry is to invest £800,000 in improvements and refurbishments over the next three years.

Work is set to begin on the Lion Quays at Weston Rhyn in January following the sale of its sister businesses Moreton Park Hotel and the Lord Moreton restaurant at the end of November.

Manager Steve Ogden said the sale meant the company had the financial stability to be able to invest in the Lion Quays. "The financial stability going forward is better and investing here will allow us to offer more to customers," he said. "I would expect half of that £800,000 to be spent in 2015 with the rest of the work carried out into 2016 and 2017."

All parts of the complex, which is sited on the A5, will undergo refurbishment, starting with the Lion Suite conference rooms which will be transformed to allow the business to provide wedding packages.

"The best time of the year to do this sort of work is usually before Easter because it tends to be quieter," Mr Ogden said.

"The Waterside Restaurant is 10 years old, the hotel is eight and the spa is six, so it needs doing. Once we get the suite refurbished then weddings will be a real priority. We've got wedding fairs booked and four wedding open days for next year. We're trying to encourage more people to book a winter wedding here as well.

"The spa and the country club will be busy in the new year but then after three months it can be more difficult to keep people coming back – they're too busy or their motivation goes."

Part of the work being done will include a rebrand which Mr Ogden said he hopes will encourage more passing trade.

He said: "The restaurant is always busy, but another thing we really want to encourage people to do is to just drop in for a coffee. We're on a main road but we don't get that many people just coming in."

Shropshire Leisure Group was bought by RCapital investment company last year.

The company sold Moreton Park garden centre to the Wyevale Group earlier in the year and sold Moreton Park Hotel and the Lord Moreton restaurant to Habern Enterprises last month.

Patrick Crossan, director of Habern Enterprises, said he was delighted with the sale and planning "substantial investment" to expand the business.

He said: "We look forward to working with the team at Moreton Park Hotel & Lord Moreton Restaurant. We have already begun to plan for a bright and exciting new future for the complex, ensuring its long-term growth and stability."

Tribute is offered for ex-mayor

TRIBUTES have been paid to a former mayor of Oswestry who has died.

Don Aldridge was twice mayor of Oswestry, in 1984 and 2004, and served on the town council for 25 years.

He was also a past mayor of Oswestry Borough and a Freeman of the Borough of Oswestry.

Mr Aldridge died on December 5 aged 86 at Gobowen's Robert Jones and Agnes Hunt Orthopaedic Hospital after suffering with cancer since April.

One of his daughters, Mandy Aldridge-Rose, said her father has been "a real gentleman" with time for everyone.

Mr Aldridge worked for 27 years as an RAF crash rescue fireman at RAF Shawbury, and started an army cadets group in the 1970s.

Mrs Aldridge-Rose said: "He was a proper Oswestry man. He was born in Oswestry and his parents were from here as well, and he always wanted to do things for the town."

Mr Aldridge was married to Vi and the couple had two daughters, Karen and Mandy, and two grandchildren, Ewan and Lucy, who are Karen's children.

Current town mayor Councillor John Gareth Jones paid tribute to Mr Aldridge's work for the town over his quarter of a century of service. He said: "Don was a committed councillor who was passionate about Oswestry and representing the interests of his electors."

Nurse helps in Ebola battle

Lieutenant Colonel Maggie Durrant is helping the Ebola fight

AN Army medic who works at Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital is deploying to Sierra Leone to aid the fight against Ebola.

Lieutenant Colonel Maggie Durrant, a senior nurse at the Gobowen-based hospital, is attached to the 208 (Liverpool) Field Hospital in Pentre, north Wales.

She is spending three months helping to run a medical facility especially for the treatment of Ebola patients.

As she will be away over Christmas, Lt Col Durrant, 53, has already held her festive celebrations with her husband, 17-year-old son, 14-year-old daughter and their extended family.

"I've deployed twice before so they're not too fazed. They're very supportive as long as I can keep in touch," she said.

"I had the opportunity to have an early Christmas and the family all came for a very big Christmas dinner so we've done it early. The family will still have Christmas on December 25 when I'm away as well.

"It will be some time in early March when I finish."Despite the training, she admitted she was feeling nervous about the deployment.

Ebola has killed 6,346 people in West Africa, with more than 17,800 infected.

Those deaths include 1,742 in Sierra Leone.

"I think I'd be wrong if I said I wasn't nervous," Lt Col Durrant said.

"I've been deployed twice before, to Iraq and Afghanistan, and the hospital has been very supportive in letting me go again."

DIRECT BLINDS Established Since 1988
Quality Made to Measure
ROLLER BLINDS
CONSERVATORY BLINDS
VENETIAN BLINDS
WOODEN BLINDS
VERTICAL BLINDS
ROMAN BLINDS
PLEATED BLINDS
Perfect Fit Blinds VELUX
BUY 4 Vertical Blinds/ roller blinds Fitted from £199
FREE MEASURING AND FITTING SERVICE
Value for Money FAST Local Service
PROFESSIONAL CARPET CLEANING
MADE TO MEASURE AND READY MADE CURTAINS
MONTGOMERY FABRICS
www.directblindsshropshire.co.uk
01691 670257
www.easyfitblinds.co.uk
For Domestic & Commercial Premises
6 Oswald Road, Oswestry SY11 1RE

David Davies & Sons
FUNERAL DIRECTORS
1 UPPER CHURCH STREET, OSWESTRY
A PRIVATE FAMILY BUSINESS SINCE 1840
~ DAY AND NIGHT SERVICE ~
TEL: (01691) 653116

JEFF'S & BURGESS
01691 65 65 65
Taxis Minibuses
Airports Seaports Local and Long Distance
We would like to wish our customers a Very Merry Christmas & A Happy New Year!
jeffstaxis@hotmail.com
www.jeff-burgesstaxisoswestry.com
Bookings can me made by Phone, Email or on Facebook
WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE VEHICLES
Jeffs Burgess Taxis
4-8 SEATERS AVAILABLE Female Drivers Available

Under New Ownership
ST MARTINS SERVICE STATION
Darren Barker formerly of Castle Garage, St Martins is pleased to announce he has now taken over the ownership of the Garage from Mike & Rose.
M.O.T'S, SERVICING, REPAIRS, TYRES, EXHAUSTS, BATTERIES, DIAGNOSTICS, RECOVERY.
M.O.T'S £29.95
TEXACO
Convenience Store
Newspapers & Magazines
Shop opening hours
Mon-Sat 7 am-9 pm
Sunday 8 am-8 pm
CALL IN FOR A FREE WINTER CHECK
BATTERY, TYRES & ANTIFREEZE
St. Martins, Oswestry SY11 3ER. Tel: 01691 772318

PROBABLY THE LARGEST ANTIQUES AND COLLECTORS EMPORIUM IN NORTH WALES OVER 2 FLOORS
Find us on Facebook
BRYN-Y-GROG HALL
ANTIQUES & COLLECTABLES
01978 355 555 info@bryn-y-grog.com
Located 1 mile South of Wrexham on the A525
Wrexham to Whitchurch Road at Marchwiel LL13 0SR
• Over 50 units full of antiques and collectables - glass, china, jewellery, militaria, vintage, retro, furniture from 17th-20th century plus second hand books!
• High quality painted furniture available
• We now also have in stock a large selection of multi purpose timber for sale.
• There is in house upholstery services available.
• We also buy any of the above items. Immediate cash given.
The centre is open 7 days a week 10am-5pm.
WWW.BRYN-Y-GROG.COM

BRITISH IRONWORK CENTRE
20% OFF
IN STORE - ENDS 23RD DEC
*Selected Christmas Decorations & Items - while stocks last - T&C's Apply
Christmas SALE
Telephone: 0800 6888387
WWW.BRITISHIRONWORKCENTRE.CO.UK
Whitehall, Aston, Oswestry, Shropshire, SY11 4JH
Main A5 just outside Oswestry

BREEZE ABOUT TOWN

How many of you, like me, were shocked by this week's news that the private company set up by Shropshire Council made a massive loss during its first trading year?

Ip&e was launched as a stand-alone company with the sole intention of generating income for the troubled council. Instead new figures reveal a shocking loss of over £110,000.

The plan made sense. Launching an independent company meant the council could use its specialist departments to tender for work with other organisations. Money generated could be reinvested and also protect valuable service provided by the authority.

So what went wrong? How has the new company amassed a pre-tax loss of £114,701 in just a year's trading?

Private industry owners would have already been called in by worried bankers and the doors would have already been closed.

As expected council leaders have been bullish about the worrying results, insisting Ip&e will make healthy profits in the future

Accounts for the company show that a revenue of £305,945 was achieved by the council's communications division which was the first service to be transferred to the private enterprise. So how on earth is there already such a deficit?

Council Leader Keith Barrow has been actively defending the losses this week with predictions of growth in the future.

This is the same Mr Barrow who promised Shropshire ratepayers that this new company would save the county cash during the last year.

This was never meant to be some sort of risky start-up businesses.

The wonderfully named Ip&e company (the name just rolls off the tongue) is supposed to be manned by the best that Shropshire has to offer.

I'm making a note of the quotes below from Mr Barrow and if he is still at the helm this time next year I will be very interested in the outcome.

He says: "Ip&e has enjoyed a successful first year of operation and is set to enjoy further success in the future.

"The costs associated with the company's set-up and early stages of trading resulted in a small deficit in Ip&e's 2013/14 financial statements, but this is to be expected for a company in the initial years of trading when turnover is relatively low.

"In 2015 Ip&e is set to provide a range of new services."

Mr Barrow, £114,000 might be a small deficit to you but to the worried taxpayer it's pretty serious stuff. And anyone in business would tell you that a low turnover company in its first year of trading should certainly not be showing a loss.

Sponsors and organisers are looking forward to another successful Oswestry Literary Festival

LitFest patron Frank Cottrell Boyce will make a welcome return to Oswestry next year

Often controversial and always engaging, Alastair Campbell, is coming to the LitFest

Festival brings amazing variety of talent to town

Next year's Oswestry Literary Festival is shaping up to be a huge success. SUE AUSTIN reports

ORGANISERS have described the line-up for next year's Oswestry Literary Festival as a mix of "light and shade".

And with a line-up ranging from TV favourites Richard and Judy to Tony Blair's former spin doctor Alastair Campbell as well as a host of other leading writers, literary fans will find it hard to disagree.

The sixth Oswestry Literary Festival takes place from March 13 to March 27 with a selection of top authors, writers and journalists appearing at a range of events celebrating words written, spoken and sung.

Popular

Events will take place throughout the town during the festival, with the programme expected to include book signings, author talks, film screenings and children's activities.

TV's most popular husband and wife team, and co-creators of Britain's favourite book club, Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan will kick off the LitFest fortnight on March 13 at The Wynnstay Hotel in Oswestry. Judy will talk about her new novel, I Do Not Sleep and will be interviewed by her writer and broadcast journalist husband Richard.

As the political heat begins to glow white hot just weeks ahead of the General Election, Alastair Campbell, the controversial writer, broadcaster and master of spin visits the Lion Quays Hotel and Spa Resort on March 19 to talk about his new book Winning.

Tony Blair's famously uncompromising former Head of Communications will examine the wider theme of winning in the fields of business and sport, as well as politics, and will offer his unique perspective on the characteristics and behaviours that set many of the world's most notable leaders and achievers apart from their competition.

TV's favourite couple Richard and Judy are coming to Oswestry

Another high point will be the appearance of novelist Sophie Hannah who appears on March 18 also at The Wynnstay Hotel in Oswestry.

Commissioned by the Agatha Christie estate to write a series of new Hercule Poirot mysteries, Sophie will talk about her first book in the series, The Monogram Murders, featuring Christie's most engaging and enduring character.

There is also a much welcome return to Oswestry by LitFest patron, the best-selling children's author and screenplay writer, Frank Cottrell Boyce, who will visit schools to give readings from his new children's book The Astounding Broccoli Boy on March 24.

In a truly spectacular coup for Oswestry LitFest, Dame Stephanie Shirley, a pioneer of Britain's emerging IT industry in the 1960s and one of the most dynamic and successful businesswomen of her generation, will close LitFest 2015 with a special encore event on April 8, again at the Lion Quays Hotel.

Dame Stephanie, who deliberately shortened her name to Steve Shirley, to foil the sexism she encountered as she grew her emerging software company, went on to become one of the richest women in Britain before giving her fortune away, becoming instead Britain's most influential champion of philanthropy.

Dame Stephanie talks about her extraordinary life in business and philanthropy – and of the period she spent as a schoolgirl in Oswestry and what it meant to her.

Oswestry LitFest Director, Carrie Morris from Booka Bookshop said: "Once again we have created a festival programme that offers light and shade, froth and depth and a range of events designed to have broad appeal to all ages and interests.

"We are thrilled to bits to bring genuinely awe-inspiring authors, writers and performers to Oswestry again next March."

Sponsors

Oswestry LitFest is also pleased to announce its corporate sponsors for 2015 are Lanyon Bowdler Solicitors, Morris Cook Chartered Accountants, Marches Care, Network Support Solutions, Oswestry School and The Shropshire Star and Oswestry and Border Chronicle.

Amanda Jones, marketing manager with Lanyon Bowdler said: "Lanyon Bowdler is delighted to once again support Oswestry LitFest in 2015. The firm believes in supporting local festivals and community projects and Oswestry LitFest is a perfect fit for us."

Andrew Clarke, senior partner at Morris Cook Chartered Accountants, which has offices in Oswestry, Ellesmere and Llangollen, added: "This will be our fourth year supporting what we see as one of the best arts events in Shropshire.

"We are thrilled with the quality of authors, range of events and opportunities to entertain both clients and colleagues alike next March."

Tickets for Oswestry LitFest's four major headline events can be booked online at www.oswestrylitfest.eventbrite.co.uk or purchased from the official Oswestry LitFest Box Office at Booka Bookshop, 26-28 Church Street, Oswestry.

People can also call (01691) 662244 or emailmail@bookabookshop.co.uk

WORKING FOR YOU

Glyn Davies MP

The most significant political event over the last few weeks has been the Autumn Statement. This is when the Chancellor of the Exchequer outlines the state of the UK economy, and makes a few other tax changes.

This year it was rather more important because it was the last before the General Election next May.The Autumn Statement was more optimistic than most commentators had been predicting. The Chancellor had a surprisingly good story to tell. The UK economy is growing faster than anyone predicted. Unemployment has fallen further and faster than anyone predicted. And the annual deficit inherited by the Coalition Government in 2010 has been halved.

But we also heard that there remain threats and concerns. Tax receipts are not growing as expected. The annual deficit will not be wiped out until 2018. And there are going to have to be further public spending reductions through the next Parliament. So the overall message of the Autumn Statement is that the UK economy is back on the road to growth and prosperity, but there remains much more to do.

The biggest taxation change in the Autumn Statement was the total reform of Stamp Duty. As a result of this reform, almost all house sales in North Shropshire and Montgomeryshire will see a reduced tax bill, in some cases by several thousand pounds.The reform will give a major boost to the property market by reducing the tax burden involved in buying and selling houses, making it easier to move around for work, and for young families to buy their first property. .

Another important change was a further increase to £10,600 in what someone can earn before paying any tax at all. The Coalition Government has increased the tax-free allowance every year since taking power in 2010.There are other welcome changes as well. Personally, I was particularly pleased to see the end of VAT on hospice fees. All in all, despite the clouds hanging over the UK economy as a result of serious weakness in the economies of most of our trading partners, I thought it was an Autumn Statement to welcome.

OBTAINING MAXIMUM COMPENSATION
FOR YOU IS WHAT WE DO....
and our proven track record shows we do it well!

www.ghplegal.co.uk
37-39 Willow Street, Oswestry SY11 1AQ
T: 01691 659194 E: oswestry@ghplegal.com

Advertisement

MY FRIEND IS IN AN ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIP. WHAT SHOULD SHE DO?

Q: My friend has not been getting along with her boyfriend who she lives with. I think he is being violent towards her but she is too scared to end the relationship because she does not want to move out of the house they share. What should she do?

A: If you are right, clearly the situation cannot continue. You should urge your friend to take legal advice from a solicitor to discuss her various options at this difficult time as there are a number of Orders that can be applied for from the Family Courts in respect of domestic violence.

Whether it is an incident or series of incidents of controlling or threatening behaviour, or physical, emotional and/or psychological violence or abuse, a Non Molestation Order can be obtained to prevent someone from being subjected to inappropriate, unpleasant behaviour. This can include preventing someone from using or threatening physical violence, intimidating someone, harassing or pestering someone and can also include preventing someone from encouraging others to do so.

An Occupation Order can be obtained to regulate rights over a property. This can suspend rights to occupy a property and/or prevent a person from returning to a property. It would depend on the circumstances as to whether the Court would deem this to be appropriate. In some circumstances it is appropriate to make applications for both Orders. If there is an immediate risk to someone's welfare an urgent application can be made to the Court without notice.

There are numerous agencies that can offer advice and support that could benefit your friend. Depending on her financial circumstances, legal aid may be available for advice and assistance and if necessary, to represent her in any proceedings. Seeking legal advice from a law firm with expertise in family law would be a good starting place.

Further information relating to this question is available from Alison Peters, a Senior Solicitor with GHP Legal.

For information relating to any other legal matter please call GHP Legal on 01691 659194 or visit www.ghplegal.com

For Personal Injury and Family matters we offer a FREE legal diagnostic clinic every Wednesday 12-3pm (no appointment necessary). GHP Legal holds the Law Society Lexcel Quality Mark Accreditation

Concerns over new plan for doctors

GPS believe that delivering the best possible care for patients in Shropshire should be a priority for the NHS, but new inspection arrangements for GP practices are likely to leave patients confused and GP services tangled in yet more paperwork.

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) has announced plans to measure GP practices against 38 targets that will penalise them should they fail to organise a specific number of meetings or enter a certain amount of data on their computers.

This skewed and limited information does not tell us about the quality of care patients receive. Neither is there any context about the circumstances a GP practice operates in, such as the levels of deprivation in its local community or its level of funding. All this is bizarrely being put on the web before CQC inspectors have even walked through the practice door.

These simplistic targets take no account the enormous pressures GP practices are under from falling funding, rising patient demand, a shortage of GPs and the fact that GP practice buildings haven't had any investment in decades.

The CQC would be serving patients in Shropshire better if it called for a solution to the problem GPs face. This must include more resources to enable the NHS to take on more GPs and nurses.

CHAAND NAGPAUL
BMA's GP committee

The high cost of warfare

OF the 2,000 German soldiers who died during the Battle of the Somme in 1916 during the First World War, a German woman wrote: "I am sorry but why did you have to die?

"War is a waste!"

The Imperial German Army had to be stopped in the Great War.

No doubt.

But at such a price?

When will man learn that war solves nothing.

All you have are corpses.

Better jaw, jaw than war, war.

JOHN R BROWN
Shrewsbury

Jets biggest climate change threat

I AM writing to you concerning climate change.

A report by the inter-governmental panel on climate change says it is likely 95 per cent of change since the 1950s was due to human activity. But I think it started even earlier with the development of jet aircraft in the Second World War.

My home is on the flight-path to mainly Manchester and northern airports. On just one morning I counted 14 jet trails. The outgoing ones were much clearer because they were climbing at full throttle after take-off 40 miles away.However, the trails of the incoming aircraft fade and stop because they have cut back the throttles to reduce speed to land.

What I am pointing out is, on the whole flight (except while coming in to land) each individual aircraft uses huge amounts of fuel which cause their trails.

I am an aircraft spotter and build and fly models and believe the jet engine to be the largest polluter on the planet.

The trails they leave can be seen clearly until they mingle above the cloud base and eventually, I presume, into the ozone.

I believe this is the reason for climate change causing constant wind, mist, floods and extreme hot and cold weather.

History tells us it has changed and the climate is now very unpredictable. Maybe the jets' contribution should be investigated more closely, perhaps sooner rather than later, or it will become like the IPCC panel suggests unequivocal.

M DAVIES
Powys

Christmas treat for playgroup children

That's the spirit... Tucking in at Queens Park playgroup, Oswestry, Christmas party in December 1996 are Daniel Pearse, Richard Young, Stephanie Williams, George Edwards, Rebecca Jones, and Natalie Renwick.

Funding aimed at helping projects

I WOULD like to make readers aware that there is now money available from the Mary Hignett Bequest Fund for clubs and individuals to apply for grants for their projects.

Originally application forms had to be in by November 30, but the deadline has now been extended until the end of 2014.

Mary Hignett, a much-loved local writer, teacher and naturalist left half of her substantial estate to the Rotary Club of Oswestry.

Her will gave the club wide discretion regarding how the money was to be administered.

The only guidance being that it should be used mainly for local small projects in the fields of sport and the arts.

Applications are currently being considered, and it is not too late to apply.

So please go to our club website where guidance notes and the application form can be found by visiting www.rotaryclub-oswestry.co.uk

Recent successful applications to the fund have included Knockin and Kinnerley Cricket Club's junior section and Whittington Music Festival.

Other recent successful applications have included Oswestry Otters, Kinokulture and Llanymynech Amateur Dramatic Society so it is definitely worth a try!

DAVID GORDON
Oswestry Rotary Club

Support is essential to many of us

I HAVE just returned from a short visit to France, Belgium and Holland and driving through Flanders could hardly imagine what it must have been for our troops, dug into a countryside that is flat, bleak and so very, very wet.

So for those of our servicemen and women that have fallen and for those injured and for all their families, may I say to the people of Oswestry a very sincere thank-you for al your kindness and your overwhelming generosity. Without your wonderful support the Royal British Legion would really struggle to provide the care and assistance which so many need.

DAVID COOPER
Poppy appeal organiser, Oswestry

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST
Readers' Letters,
Oswestry Chronicle,
Ketley,
Telford, TF1 5HU

EMAIL
letters@oswestry chronicle.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Osborne paying off EU bill with rebates

OUR Chancellor is deluded if he thinks no-one understands his sleight of hand.

Some years ago Mrs Thatcher negotiated a good rebate for the UK, much of which Mr Blair gave away for no reason and with nothing in return. This is paid in arrears when all our payments to the EU are finalised.

What Mr Osborne has done is to arrange to pay half of our £1.7 billion bill now, while leaving the rest to paid by the rebates we should have received in 2015 and 2016. So the UK will be paying the full £1.7 billion but the politicians hope we will forget about it in due course.

AJ ASTLEY
Ellesmere

Sharks are targeting our NHS

HEALTH Secretary Jeremy Hunt tells us the NHS must use new technology to slash its costs.

Like every other MP he seems to be oblivious to the appalling record that Westminster has acquired buying in new technology and IT systems in the short time they have been available.

There have been many – all have had the same outcome – they have all cost billions and failed to do the job they were purchased to do. All were provided by private enterprise companies.

Mr Hunt should turn his attention to the private enterprise sharks "servicing" the NHS because "milking" the NHS would be nearer the truth.

BOB WYDELL
Oswestry

Coping with migration

WE are told mass immigration is good for the economy.

What this means is they pay income tax so the Government is happy. They will work for peanuts so company bosses are happy.

Balance this against the negatives of mass immigration.

Our wages won't increase; too many houses are being built to house them; hospitals cannot cope; doctors cannot cope; roads cannot cope; jails cannot cope; dentists cannot cope, and don't forget social disharmony.

But it is good for the economy.

PAUL GIGGS
Shawbury

Morgans Doors & floors
SPECIAL OFFER OAK LEDGED DOORS £95 + VAT
FLOORING
LAMINATE – ENGINEERED OAK – SOLID OAK
ENGINEERED OAK DOORS FROM £19.99 PER SQ M + VAT
SOLID OAK DOORS FROM £27.99 PER SQ M + VAT
TIMBER
SOLID OAK SKIRTING – ARCHITRAVES – PLANK
INTERNAL & EXTERNAL DOORS
OAK• HEMLOCK HARDWOOD
DOOR FURNITURE
PEWTER – BEESWAX
CHROME – BRASS
OPEN TO RETAIL AND TRADE CUSTOMERS
Call into our showroom at
Unit 6 Maes Y Clawdd, Mile End Business Park, Oswestry
01691 657700
Delivery Service Available

The New and Improved Lion Hotel
Under New Management and welcoming you for Christmas
3 courses from £21
2nd - 30th Dec
not including Christmas Day
Traditional 17th Century Inn with rooms also available
Book Now: 01686 640452 | Berrirew, Welshpool, SY21 8PQ

You'll love the increased business!
We ♥ Advertising
Contact the Sales Team on 01691 668 095/090/092

BJS GAS
BOTTLED GAS SERVICES
Your One Stop Shop for Gas
Suppliers of Calor, Budget Gas in your area since 1998
• Propane/Butane
• Industrial Gases
• Domestic Gases
• Cabinet Heaters
BUDGET GAS LTD.
Distributor of Butane and Propane Gases
• Accessories • Regulators • Change over Valves
• LPG Gas Hoses • Cutting & Welding Gas
• Patio Heaters • Competitive Prices
You call-we deliver to your local area
Tel: 01691 773651 or 07803 957598
St. Martins Business Park, Ellesmere Road,
St. Martins, Oswestry SY11 3BE
www.bjsgas.co.uk Email: enquiries@bjsgas.co.uk
OPENING HOURS:
Mon-Fri 9am-5pm
Saturday 9am-1pm

Parish Church of St. Oswald, King & Martyr, Oswestry
TRADITIONAL FESTIVAL OF NINE LESSONS & CAROLS
Come and hear all your favourite carols sung by our fine cathedral standard choir
Sunday
21st December 6.30pm.
If you can't get to King's College, Cambridge then St. Oswald's, Oswestry is the place to be.

Sholars project is launched at school

Adcote School headmaster Gary Wright

GIRLS in Shropshire are being offered the chance to win one of five new scholarships to one of the county's most successful schools.

The new scholarships for Adcote School in Little Ness have been created in memory of Lieutenant Maurice Darby, last heir to Adcote Hall, who was killed in action on March 11, 1915.

Aged 20, Lt Darby died while leading his platoon of the 1st Battalion Grenadier Guards in an attack at Neuve Chapelle in France.

He is buried in the churchyard at Little Ness.

Gary Wright, headmaster of Adcote School for Girls, said the new academic scholarships will be known as the Maurice Darby Scholarships, and will be worth up to 100 per cent of fees for day girls whose families live in Shropshire.

Application forms are available by calling (01939) 260202 or by email admissions@adcoteschool.co.uk

Hopes are high for faster web connection in county

INTERNET users in the Oswestry area could soon be travelling on the information superhighway a lot faster after it was announced more than £11 million could be spent to improve superfast broadband coverage in Shropshire.

By Thom Kennedy

Connecting Shropshire, which is running the roll-out of broadband in the county, has been allocated £11.38 million from a central pot.

But it needs to match that money, and is hoping that a bid through the Marches Local Enterprise Partnership for £7.5 million of government money will help unlock the eight-figure sum.

Council chief executive Clive Wright said: "We are asking the LEP to provide the match funding and are optimistic that there will be a positive announcement.

"It's our number one project, and we are optimistic the government will have listened and funding through the LEP will allow us to achieve our own targets."

The additional funding is to help extend the faster internet speeds to 90 per cent of homes and businesses around Shropshire.

So far, more than 300 kilometres of fibre optic cable have been laid around the county by Connecting Shropshire and its delivery partner, BT Openreach, with more than 185 new roadside cabinets installed.

The first phase is due to finish around the end of 2016, and the group is putting measures in place to allow the second phase to begin immediately afterwards even before the match funding is in place.

Mr Wright added: "We haven't got the money to come up with a match. Some local authorities have rich reserves, but we are not in that position.

"This is a government priority, and that we are applying through the LEP.

"If government doesn't fund its own plans then there isn't a plan B as it stands, we will have to see what we can spend and how much further we can go.

"The roll-out wouldn't be as fast, and we want to do this while BT is on the ground as mobilising for a second time incurs a second cost."

Housing scheme formally opened

A celebratory cake was cut to mark the event

Paul Smith, Joyce Barrow and Sarah Boden at the opening

SHROPSHIRE Councillor Joyce Barrow has officially opened a new Severnside Housing Group development in Morda near Oswestry.

A formal ribbon cutting ceremony took place at The Ashes, Weston Road.

The scheme cost a total of £2.27m and includes a total of 21 properties.

Councillor Barrow said it was a pleasure to officially open the houses and to observe the positive impact the homes will have within the Oswestry and Morda communities.

The development is a rural exception site, meaning priority is given to housing those with a local connection to Oswestry Rural Parish.

Severnside's chief executive Sarah Boden said "We are very pleased by the success of this development.

"Our aim is to build excellent homes in thriving communities and this aim is realised in Morda."

Following the ribbon cutting, refreshments were then taken at the Dining Rooms in Oswestry, where there was a special cake to celebrate the occasion.

Among the guests was Paul Smith, chair of the Severnside Housing Group's board.

The build commenced in 2013 in partnership with local builder, SJ Roberts.

It was part funded by Homes and Communities Agency.

It offers a mix of tenure and unit types to address different areas of housing needs.

Leader in plea to remember workers

SHROPSHIRE Council leader Keith Barrow has urged people to think about those who have to work during the Christmas break.

In his festive message, the councillor from Trefonen near Oswestry, said: "For most of us Christmas is a happy and enjoyable time of year, and many of us will be lucky enough to enjoy a relaxing Christmas with family and friends.

"However, I'd like to ask you to spare a thought for those who aren't so fortunate.

"While many of us are opening presents and enjoying our turkey and trimmings on Christmas Day, many people will be busy working – providing essential services and helping to keep people safe and well.

"These include many Shropshire Council staff, health workers, members of the emergency services, charity workers, volunteers, and many more, and I'd like to thank and pay tribute to everyone who will be hard at work not just on Christmas Day, but throughout the festive period. "Christmas is also a time to think about other people who may be feeling lonely or in need of help or friendship.

"I therefore encourage everyone to remember your elderly or vulnerable neighbours, relatives and friends over the Christmas period, especially those who live on their own."

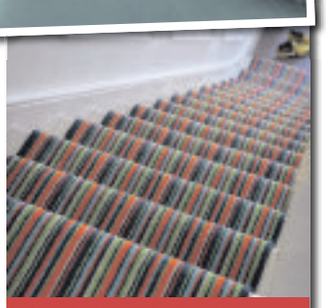
SALE

STARTS 20th DECEMBER 2014!

MANY ITEMS REDUCED TO CLEAR!

TABLES & CHAIRS

BEDSTEADS



CARPETS FROM... £5.99m²

QUALITY CARPETS & FURNITURE

Seasonal Opening Hours

Open - 29th, 30th, 31st December and 2nd, 3rd January 10:00 - 4:00.

Closed - 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th December 2014 and 1st January 2015.

THE FOX BUILDING COMPLEX • SEVERN ROAD • WELSHPOOL • POWYS • SY21 7AZ

TELEPHONE: 01938 554422 • WEB: www.carpets-furniture.co.uk • EMAIL: sales@carpets-furniture.co.uk

Nickie Cordingley outside Capel in Berriew where she and her husband have a Christmas tree plantation

The Cordingleys have been involved in the growing and selling of Christmas trees, with a plantation on their land

Tree-mendous sale

IT could be Christmas all year round for the new owners of a bed and breakfast near Welshpool - as the property has its own Christmas tree plantation.

Capel at Berriew attracts visitors and holidaymakers wanting to enjoy the outdoor scenery, activities and nearby historic Powis Castle.

Owners Nickie and Peter Cordingley also have a festive sideline selling some of their pine trees each December, and their son runs a deer farm

Report by Pam Kingsley

on the smallholding. But they have now decided to cook their final breakfast, putting the four-bedroomed property on the market.

"We bought the property very much as a family home. But we developed it into a bed and breakfast business as the area attracts thousands of visitors each year and there was demand for such accommodation," said Mrs Cordingley.

"We're lucky to be situated alongside the Shropshire Union Canal and within what is stunning Montgomeryshire countryside which is the main reason we get so many visitors to the area."

The Cordingleys have also been involved in the growing and selling of Christmas trees, with a plantation on their land. Each year they sell trees to passing trade and the current plantation will provide an opportunity to sell to wholesalers.

"Capel is our home but it's time for us to move on. There are opportunities to develop the B&B side of the property with investment or to use it as a family home or even return it to a smallholding," said Mrs Cordingley.

The property is on the market through estate and land agents Morris, Marshall and Poole for £695,000.

The property has been developed into a bed and breakfast business, catering for the many visitors to the Welshpool area each year

We have a wide range of Wines, Spirits, Ales and Beer at our outlet on Mile End Business Park opposite Morgans

Perfect for all your Christmas Gifts, Parties and Corporate (Deals Available)

MOMENTUM WINES

For all Your Christmas Cheer

Dolci Colline Prosecco | Dolci Colline Spumante Rose | Sileni Estate Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc | Gavi La Battistina | Beaujolais Villages 'Les Pivonnes' | Cotes du Rhone Village 'Les Coteaux' | Pinot Noir 'Les Volets' | Juan Gill 4 Messes Monastrell | Edulis Rioja Crianza

All the excellent wines above at £7.99

Warehouse Eight, Maes-y-Clawdd, Mile End Business Park, Maesbury Road Industrial Estate, Oswestry, SY10 8NN.

t: 01691 654499 www.momentumwines.co.uk

December Opening Times: Monday - Saturday 9am - 5pm.

Athlete's joy after meeting celebrity

Amy Hughes met fellow runner Eddie Izzard

OSWESTRY marathon girl Amy Hughes was introduced to the 12,000-strong audience at the BBC Sports of the Year awards by none other than fellow ultra runner, comedian, Eddie Izzard.

The two, who both ran though the county and the Welsh borders as part of their endurance fundraisers, met up at the glittering event in Glasgow.

Amy, from West Felton, was flabbergasted when the comedian took to the stage before the televised part of the event - and asked her to get to her feet to received acclaim from the guests.

The 26-year-old was one of the guests-of-honour at the awards thanks to her world record set in the summer for running 53 marathons in 53 days. Her achievement also raised £53,000 for the Isabelle Lottie Foundation which helps families and children with and recovering from childhood cancers.

Recruitment plea made by area's crime commissioner

THE police force which serves the Oswestry area has been urged by its crime commissioner to take urgent steps to speed up the recruitment process.

Cuts in the human resources department has made it more difficult for new officers to be vetted to join West Mercia Police , according to Bill Longmore.

By James Fisher

The lack of recruitment has also led to an underspend within the force's budget, as money had been purposely held back for more front line staff, he said.

Mr Longmore said cutbacks with the force, which is trying to save £30 million between April 2015 and 2018, had affected some parts of the service worse than others and said there had also been a high and unexpected number of retirements.

He also said was frustrated with how long it was taking to recruit new faces at a time in which the force was facing huge change with its operational alignment with Warwickshire Police.

The two forces announced in May it was to take on 140 new officers, but Mr Longmore said progress had been slow.

"We have been going through a lot of changes over the last two years," he said.

"With West Mercia and Warwickshire being put together we have made cuts and the HR department is one area that has suffered.

"We have identified there is shortage but the speed of the recruitment process has not been fast enough."

Chief Constable David Shaw said fundamental changes had been made to the way West Mercia police was run over the last few years. He said: "Perhaps we haven't put enough thought into bringing new people in.

"It's got nothing to do with people not working hard enough but we just want to make sure not a single pound of tax payers' money is wasted.

"We will be bringing new people into the force but we also want to use the resources we have better.

"We may have cut back a little bit far in some areas but the next phase of change will be planning where to spend the money, where to reinvest and where to bring people in."

War poet's spoon at museum

Wilfred Owen was born in Oswestry

The war poet's silver spoon is now in a museum

A SILVER spoon used by Oswestry war poet Wilfred Owen when he was on the front line in the First World War has been donated to a museum dedicated to his life and work.

The spoon, which is stamped with the Artists Rifles' crest, was found in an online auction and is now going on show at the Wilfred Owen Museum in Birkenhead.

Museum owner Dean Johnson said: "Wilfred was a connoisseur of tea from childhood due to his father Tom's seafaring days, when he brought home many exotic blends. During Owen's time at the front line he was an avid tea drinker, insisting his mother send him his favourites regularly.

"The Artists Rifles was still a relatively small garrison when Wilfred joined, so he must have used this spoon to stir his morning cuppa - apparently he liked a lot of sugar.

"Even without the connection to Wilfred Owen it is a very rare item because the Artists Rifles was such a small unit." Wilfred Owen enjoyed a privileged birth into a well-to-do Oswestry family, but his situation soon changed when the family lost everything and relocated to Birkenhead in 1900.

He enlisted in the British Army in 1915 but most of his work was written while serving in France between August 1917 and September 1918.

Wilfred Owen was killed trying to cross a canal a week before the end of the war in 1918. He was 25 years old.

Patients speak of border problems

PATIENTS who have experienced cross border health services have given a report of their experiences to a group of politicians.

The Welsh Affairs Committee, a Commons Select Committee made up of 12 cross-party Welsh MPs, visited Mid Wales to talk to locals about cross-border health issues between England and Wales.

The committee is collecting views and statistics evidence over a two-month period and will make recommendations in early 2015.

It is not usual for a Parliamentary Committee to meet the public, but committee member and Montgomeryshire MP Glyn Davies said he was particularly keen that there should be a meeting in Montgomeryshire to understand the difficulties arising from cross-border health issues.

Mr Davies said: "Before preparing a report on cross-border health issues between England and Wales, I thought it crucial to visit Montgomeryshire so that MPs could hear about problems directly from those affected. I'm grateful to those who came along to share their opinions with us.

"As expected, the main concerns are distances Montgomeryshire patients have to travel to access treatment, and the longer waiting times in Wales for treatment compared with England."

The Clearance Depot

Unit 12, The Vastre Ind. Estate, Newtown SY16 1DZ Tel: 01686 622954

BOXING DAY CLEAR OUT!

NOT A SALE

Closing 2 Units Down 100's of items on offer

Headboards from £29

Table & Four Chairs from £139

Chest of Drawers from £60

Reclining Chairs - Fantastic Value £299

Single Beds from £49 Double £100 King Size £150

Triple Fitted Robes £100 each to clear (Only 2 left)

Carpet Rolls from £5

Also a few large rolls

Offers Are Cash Sales Only!! Open 10am-4pm

5ft Airsprung Mattresses £50 to clear

Sofa Beds £149

PV Leather Suites 2 Seater + 2 Chairs £599 Brown/Black

Divan Sets - Got to be seen to be believed

3 Seaters and 2 Chairs Direct from the Manufacturer £699

Wooden Baby Cots £50 to clear

Fantastic Corner Suites £499

MEADOW VIEW

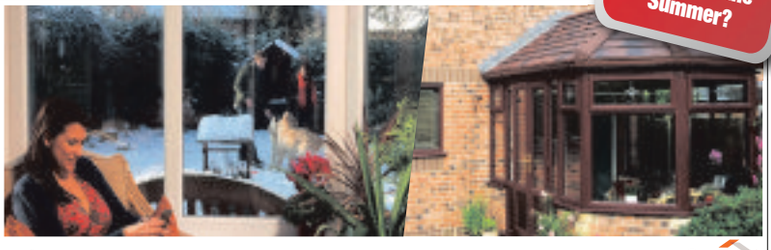
WINDOWS & CONSERVATORIES

MV

Meadow View Windows has now been trading for over 18 years and offer top quality service with the home improvement market. If you require any further information about the services we offer, please contact a member of staff.

- MADE TO MEASURE REPLACEMENT WINDOWS
- VARIOUS TYPES OF DOORS
- AVAILABLE IN TIMBER, UPVC AND ALUMINIUM
- CONSERVATORIES/PORCHES/CARPORTS/CANOPIES
- FASCIA AND SOFFIT REPLACEMENT
- BUILDING SERVICES/EXTENSIONS/CONVERSIONS/PATIOS

Is your Conservatory too cold in Winter? Too hot in the Summer?



A Guardian™ Roof will literally transform your conservatory into a comfortable, practical all year round living space...

Guardian Warm Roof

In just a few days we will transform your old conservatory into a beautiful garden room... ...and here's how we do it, first of all we remove the roof, we will then construct and install the lightweight aluminium frame, next we add the high performance insulated roof before the interior is finished to your specification.

Extra living space can mean a lounge, dining room, study, kitchen, playroom, hideaway, in fact whatever you want it to be. With a Guardian™ Roof in place, you've not just got more options - you've transformed your home!

- Thermally efficient for lower heating bills
- Fully guaranteed
- Choice of exterior finish to match your home
- Extends your ground floor living area

Welshpool 01938 556555

Shrewsbury 01743 368700

BRONHAUL YARD, BROOK STREET, WELSHPOOL, POWYS SY21 7PH

Web: www.meadowviewwindows.co.uk

Property

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO HOME BUYING AND LETTING

Property has superb views of Dee Valley

On a glorious hillside position, Hen Pandy at Berwyn, Llangollen is an outstanding five-bedroomed detached family home with wonderful views over the picturesque Dee Valley. It is for sale through Town & Country at £379,950. It has a porch, a reception hall, a lounge with valley views, a raised snug leading into a dining room, a sitting room with views, a kitchen/breakfast room, a slim-line sliding door pantry unit, stainless steel eye level electric double oven and grill, an American Style fridge/freezer, tumble drier, Karndeen flooring with border inlay, part tiled walls, under unit lighting, beech block effect work surfaces and spotlights.

There is also a rear lobby and utility room, a Victorian-style conservatory, ground floor bathroom with a luxury Dolphin four piece white suite and a shower cubicle with a large deluge head, heated towel rail and ceramic tiled flooring, master bedroom, a dressing room, four further bedrooms including bedroom five/study and a further bathroom with a shower with multi-head body jets. Outside is a double garage, a barn and gardens with a wooded area. Contact Town & Country on 01691 679631.

Generous family property with a price for quick sale

This well presented, modern, five bedroom house 5 Bryn Glas, Oswestry, on the market at £265,000, has been realistically priced for a quick sale and offers exceptional value for a growing family. With spacious accommodation over three floors including through lounge, dining room, refitted kitchen and utility, two en-suite shower rooms and family bathroom. The property also has gas central heating, double glazing, parking and double garage. Contact Monks on 01939 234368.

Newly renovated terraced home is now on the market

Woodhead Estates are delighted to present a three bedroom terraced house 72 York Street, Oswestry, to the market. It for sale with no chain. This property benefits from being newly renovated with two reception rooms, double glazing, gas central heating, utility area and enclosed rear garden. Viewings are highly recommended to appreciate this property's presentation, accommodation and location. The asking price is in the region of £124,950. Contact Woodhead Estates on 01691 680044.

HANRATTY & CO
SOLICITORS
Authorised & Regulated by the Solicitors Regulation Authority
Company No: 67990

THINKING OF MOVING HOUSE?
Buying or Selling? First Time Buyer or Investor?
Tenancy agreements & General property advice
CONTACT OLIVER JOSEPH 01686 626239
WWW.HANRATTYLAW.COM

Impressive five bed contemporary home in the country

A bespoke design and spacious five bedroom home near Welshpool offers a unique opportunity to buy a contemporary home with superb outlooks. Ochor y Bryn, Hope Leighton, was built in 2006 boasting sustainable and lifestyle features including underfloor heating Agent, Clemmie Radcliffe of Balfours Property Professionals, says: "This is a beautiful and well thought out property." The property is two miles from Welshpool in unspoilt countryside. Ochor y Bryn is offered to the market with a guide of £750,000 for more information call Clemmie Radcliffe on 01743 353511.

Balfours

Substantial family house also has a very large garden

This substantial detached family home 10 Inglis Road, Park Hall, Oswestry offers five bedrooms and a large garden in a sought after residential area. It offers a master bedroom with ensuite bathroom and a further four bedrooms, three reception rooms, conservatory and luxury kitchen. It hasa reception hall, dining room, sitting room/office, lounge, conservatory, kitchen/breakfast room, utility room, cloakroom, first floor landing, master bedroom & ensuite, four further bedrooms, family bathroom. double garage, large gardens and communal paddock. It is for sale chain free and the price is £295,000. Contact Halls on 01691 670320.

Halls

Large property comes with its own enclosed paddock

Plot 2, The Meadows, Nobold, Baschurch, priced in the region of £595,000 is an impressive, large five bedroom detached house which has been developed by Ricsan Properties Ltd. to a high standard of specification. It has gas central heating with zoned underfloor heating, double glazing, a high standard of insulation, oak flooring and doors and carpets. Good sized gardens and an enclosed paddock to the rear extending to about an acre in all. In a secluded, yet convenient setting beautifully combining a rural feeling overlooking open countryside. Call Miller Evans on 01743 236800.

MILLER EVANS

Smart five bedroom house in a quiet area on the market

Number 28 Bentley Drive, Oswestry, is on the market with Woodhead Estates. This modern five bedroom detached double fronted house is in a quiet location. It has three reception rooms, kitchen/ breakfast room, utility room, double glazing, gas central heating, two ensuite bedrooms, three bedrooms with fitted wardrobes, separate family bathroom, downstairs cloakroom, off road parking, detached double garage and an enclosed landscaped rear garden. Viewings are highly recommended to appreciate this property's location, accommodation and presentation. Offers in the region of £329,950 are being sought. Call 01691 680044.

WOODHEAD

Oswestry's Recommended Agent for the Guild of Professional Estate Agents

WOODHEAD ESTATES

www.woodheadestates.com T: 01691 680044 E: sales@woodheadestates.com

NEW PRICE
Oswestry **Thornhill**
5 BED DET HOUSE
SOUGHT AFTER LOCATION
ANNEX
EPC RATING D
OIRO £569,950

NEW PRICE
Trefonen **Silverdale**
3 BED DET HOUSE
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
OPEN VIEWS
EPC RATING F
OIRO £309,950

NEW PRICE
Park Hall **South Lodge**
4 BED DET HOUSE
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
EXTENSIVE GARDENS
EPC RATING E
OIRO £299,950

NEW
Oswestry **18 Upper Well Close**
5 BED DET HOUSE
SOUGHT AFTER LOCATION
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
EPC RATING C
OIRO £299,500

NEW
Park Hall **15 Park Crescent**
4 BED DETACHED HOUSE
NO CHAIN
TWO STUDIOS
EPC RATING D
OIRO £279,950

NEW
Chirk **Castlewood**
4 BED DET PERIOD HOUSE
ORIGINAL FEATURES
OIL CENTRAL HEATING
EPC RATING F
OIRO £209,950

NEW PRICE
Maesbury Marsh **Oakdene**
3 BED DORMA BUNGALOW
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
CONSERVATORY
EPC RATING F
OIRO £209,950

SOLD
Oswestry **41 Morda Close**
4 BED DET HOUSE
CINEMA ROOM
LOWER GROUND FLOOR
EPC RATING C
OIRO £594,950

SOLD
Llanrhaedr **Penyboncyn**
4 BED DET HOUSE
NO CHAIN
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
EPC RATING D
£449,950

SOLD
Oswestry **9 Hafod Close**
5 BED DET HOUSE
NO CHAIN
DOUBLE GARAGE
EPC RATING D
OIRO £344,950

SOLD
Oswestry **6 Brynhafod Drive**
3 BED DET BUNGALOW
DOUBLE GARAGE
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
EPC RATING E
OIRO £339,950

NEW
Oswestry **40 Hampton Fields**
3 BED DET BUNGALOW
SOUGHT-AFTER AREA
EN SUITE TO MASTER BED
EPC RATING E
OIRO £204,950

NEW PRICE
Pant **Glyndwr**
3 BED DET BUNGALOW
LIVING ROOM/ DINER
OPEN VIEWS
EPC RATING D
OIRO £194,950

SOLD
Llynclys **Robin Hill**
3 BED DET HOUSE
NO CHAIN
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
EPC RATING E
OIRO £247,950

WOODHEAD ESTATES

would like to wish our valued customers past, present and future a **VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS** and a **MAGICAL NEW YEAR.**

We are open
27th, 29th & 30th December 2014

We are closed
Christmas Eve, Christmas Day & Boxing Day

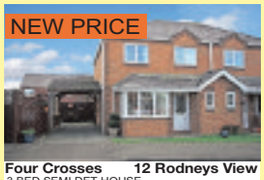
SOLD
Pant **4 Delfan**
4 BED DET HOUSE
KITCHEN/ DINER
DOWNSTAIRS BATHROOM
EPC RATING C
OIRO £249,950

NEW
Oswestry **12 Oak Drive**
3 BED SEMI DET HOUSE
NO CHAIN
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
EPC RATING D
OIRO £179,950

NEW
Gobowen **21 Meadow Drive**
3 BED SEMI DET HOUSE
NO CHAIN
DOWNSTAIRS SHOWER ROOM
EPC RATING C
OIRO £159,950

SOLD
Oswestry **9 Glentworth Avenue**
4 BED DET HOUSE
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
DOUBLE GARAGE
EPC RATING D
OIRO £247,500

SOLD
Oswestry **11 Longueville Drive**
3 BED DET HOUSE
CONSERVATORY
GARAGE
EPC RATING D
OIRO £174,950


NEW PRICE
Four Crosses **12 Rodneys View**
3 BED SEMI DET HOUSE
2 RECEPTION ROOMS
CORNER PLOT
EPC RATING D
OIRO £149,950

NEW
Oswestry **74 Upper Church Street**
TWO BEDROOM TERRACE HOUSE
CONVENIENT LOCATION
LANDSCAPED REAR GARDEN
EPC RATING TBA
OIRO £134,950

SOLD
Oswestry **43 Aston Way**
2 BED DET BUNGALOW
NO CHAIN
CONSERVATORY
EPC RATING D
ASKING PRICE £139,950

SOLD
Oswestry **10 Summerfield Close**
2 BED SEMI DET HOUSE
DOUBLE GLAZING
CONSERVATORY
EPC RATING D
OIRO £129,950

SOLD
Oswestry **12 Whitfield Close**
2 BED SEMI DET HOUSE
OFF ROAD PARKING
KITCHEN/DINER
EPC RATING D
OIRO £124,950

SOLD
Oswestry **42 Upper Brook Street**
1 BED TERRACE HOUSE
NO CHAIN
PVC DOUBLE GLAZING
EPC RATING E
OIRO £89,950

NEW
Oswestry **1 Powis Avenue**
2 BED SEMI DET BUNGALOW
GAS CENTRAL HEATING
DOUBLE GLAZING
EPC RATING D
OIRO £132,950

NEW PRICE
Oswestry **49 Monkmoor Road**
2 BED SEMI DET BUNGALOW
NO CHAIN
CAR PORT
EPC RATING C
OIRO £119,950

NEW
Llanymynech **3 Hafod Cottages**
2 BED MODERN MEWS STYLE HOUSE
WELL PRESENTED
POPULAR RESIDENTIAL LOCATION
EPC RATING B
OIRO £112,950

TO LET
Oswestry **Unit 1 Glovers Meadow**
OFFICE 1 £170.00 pcm
OFFICE 2 £160.00 pcm
OFFICE 3 - LET AGREED
OFFICE 4 £367.00 pcm
FROM £170 PCM

WANTED NOW!

3 BED DETACHED HOUSES

IN

MANSION GARDENS

FOR WAITING PROCEEDABLE BUYERS!

FREE VALUATION
NO OBLIGATION

LETTINGS

53 YORK STREET, OSWESTRY. 2 BED TERRACE HOUSE ..... £450 PCM
38 PARK AVENUE, OSWESTRY. 2 BED TERRACE HOUSE ..... £485 PCM
19 HERITAGE WAY, LLANYMYNECH. 4 BED TOWN HOUSE .....£525 PCM
2 GLANYRAFON COTTAGE, LLANGEDWYN. 2 BED SEMI DET COTTAGE £525 PCM
15 HOMESTEAD AVENUE, ST MARTINS. 3 BED DET BUNGALOW .....£650 PCM
1 WILLIAM FELTON MEWS, OSWESTRY. 3 BED TOWN HOUSE .....£750 PCM

rightmove.co.uk The UK's number one property website

The Property Ombudsman

Head and Shoulders Above The Rest

12 Leg Street • Oswestry • Shropshire • SY11 2NL

Lettings Fees will apply on all applications

ASSOCIATED LONDON OFFICE LOCAL KNOWLEDGE REGIONAL COVERAGE NATIONAL PRESENCE

STANS superstore

www.stans.biz
FAMILY OWNED FAMILY RUN SUPERSTORE
St. Martins, Nr. Oswestry
Tel: 01691 772348

CARLING
18 x 440ml Cans
~~£15.99~~

Equivalent to 72p per pint
Save £6.00
£9.99

Less than Half Price
99p

PRINGLES 190g ~~£2.29~~ ~~£1.79~~

Excellent Value only £2.99 per kg

CORNER GAMMON JOINTS ~~£4.50~~

MR KIPLING MINCE PIES
6 PACK ~~£1.69~~

Save 69p
£1.00

LARGE 720g BOX

SAVE £5.00
£6.99

DAIRY BOX 720g ~~£11.99~~

Less than Half Price
£2.50

COKE/ DIET COKE
10 X 330ml
~~£3.75~~
~~£3.50~~

AUNT BESSIE'S ROAST POTATOES
907g
~~£1.95~~

Save 95p
£1.00

WOLF BLASS YELLOW LABEL
75cl
~~£9.99~~
~~£6.99~~

Save £4.00
£5.99

MR KING'S PROFITEROLES
236g

Only
£1.29

FAMOUS GROUSE WHISKY
70cl
~~£17.79~~
~~£11.99~~

Save £6.80
£10.99

BRITISH TURKEY CROWN
2kg

ONLY
£10.00

That's only
£5
per kg

TREVISO PROSECCO
75cl ~~£9.99~~
~~£6.99~~

Save £4.00
£5.99

JACOB'S CREEK
75cl
~~£8.29~~

Save £3.30
£4.99

Offers end Wednesday 24th December 2014

SAVE 7p

WHEN YOU SPEND £50 OR MORE IN THE MAIN STORE.
TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY, SEE IN STORE FOR FULL DETAILS

Christmas TV

Your 12-page festive viewing guide

Soap on song in ratings battle

Who is that with the doctor?

Classic drama from the abbey

Festive film guide

Movies for family fun

THE LEGO MOVIE

(Sky Premiere, 8pm, Christmas Eve)

This terrific yarn is every bit as imaginative, colourful and cleverly constructed as its plastic inspiration. The story centres on Emmet (voiced by Guardians of the Galaxy star Chris Pratt), a construction worker who stands up to the repressive schemes of President Business (Will Ferrell). The action is literally block-busting and the gags come thick and fast. ★★★★★

Will Ferrell as President Business in the Lego Movie

SKYFALL

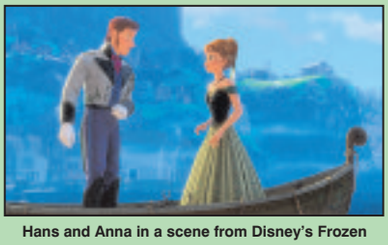
(ITV, 8pm Christmas Eve)

Premiere. James Bond pursues a mysterious criminal mastermind who has orchestrated a terrorist attack on MI6 headquarters and exposed the identities of undercover agents. The trail leads to a rogue former operative who has a personal vendetta against the intelligence organisation's leader. Thriller, starring Daniel Craig, Javier Bardem, Judi Dench and Ralph Fiennes. ★★★★★

FROZEN

(Sky Premiere, 7pm Christmas Day)

Hans Christian Andersen's The Snow Queen gets the full Disney-princess treatment in this dazzling fairy-tale yarn. Broadway star Idina Menzel voices Elsa, the princess whose magical frostiness is so dangerous she's separated from her sister Anna (Kristen Bell), who goes on a quest to find her. Superb and fun from Josh Gad's happy-go-lucky snowman. ★★★★★



Hans and Anna in a scene from Disney's Frozen

NANNY MCPHEE

(ITV, 1.10pm Christmas Day)

A Victorian widower struggles to control his unruly children, who have already driven a series of childminders to distraction. But a strange-looking nanny soon gets the youngsters into line, leaving a weary father to concentrate on finding a new wife. Period fantasy adventure, starring Emma Thompson and Colin Firth. ★★★

PUSS IN BOOTS

(BBC One, 3.10pm)

Premiere. The swashbuckling feline joins forces with a cunning thief and a treacherous old friend to steal a magical golden goose. He must save the day when it transpires that their actions have unleashed a danger on his home town. Animated comedy spin-off with the voices of Antonio Banderas and Salma Hayek. ★★★★

Puss in Boots is a spin-off from the Shrek series

CHITTY CHITTY BANG BANG

(Channel 5, 3.25pm Christmas Day)

Eccentric inventor Caractacus Potts rescues an old car from the scrapheap, only to discover it has magical, gravity-defying powers. Musical adventure, based on the book by Ian Fleming, starring Dick Van Dyke. ★★★★

Back for a full series – Still Open All Hours

Doctor Who with Santa on Christmas Day at 6.15pm

Holiday drama for the girls in Birds of a Feather

Festive fare

FOR many viewers you can forget the twinkling tinsel-covered Christmas tree and mulled wine, for them the festive fun only really kicks off when the annual TV guides hit their doormats.

And while they eagerly begin planning their holiday must-watch Yuletide offerings, with the BBC and ITV once again preparing to battle it out on the box, what is on offer includes more than 650 hours of repeated programmes, with much-loved children's shows, films and cookery broadcasts leading the way.

Yet much of the excitement will centre again on Christmas day specials of programmes that have proved popular during the year, with the BBC offering up Strictly Come Dancing, Call the Midwife and Miranda.

The blockbuster 9pm slot will see ITV's period drama Downton Abbey going up against Eastenders on BBC1 for the second year in a row, as well and Mrs Brown's Boys, which last year topped the Christmas Day ratings with 9.4 million viewers.

Peter Capaldi's first festive episode will be sandwiched between Strictly and Miranda on Christmas Day on BBC1.After a two-year break in filming, Miranda returns on the big day at 7.15pm, going up against Emmerdale on ITV at 7pm, before its final ever instalment on New Year's Day at 8pm. The Call the Midwife festive special, which again features the comic actress playing Chummy, will air immediately after Miranda at 7.50pm on Christmas Day. As the actress has promised a happy ending for the much-loved character, the big question is will she finally find love with chef Gary Preston (Tom Ellis)?

So get your pens at the ready to begin circling your programmes of choice! To help you, here's a sneak-peek at some of the festive fare:

The Incredible Adventures of Professor Branestawm

(BBC1, Christmas Eve, 8.30pm)

Unless Harry Hill really does spend his free time chatting to soft toys and shouting 'fight!', most of us would assume that he's quite used to playing a character. However, he's making his official acting debut in this comedy drama, which has been adapted by Charlie Higson from Norman Hunter's classic children's books. Professor Branestawm (Hill) is an absent-minded professor, whose creations have a habit of going disastrously wrong.

Strictly Come Dancing Christmas Special

(BBC1, Christmas Day, 5pm)

Tinsel, tutus and terrific dancing – they're all in store for viewers as some familiar faces take to the dance floor once last time. While the recent crop of contestants on the regular show have bitten their nails down to the quick due to the stress and strain of taking part over weeks of gruelling competition, the emphasis is on fun in this festive edition. Last year, those taking part were novices, but this time, the Beeb has opted to bring back a few favourites from previous series.

The Crawley family has been invited to a shooting party in Downton Abbey on Christmas Day

Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs at Christmas

(ITV, Christmas Day, 5.50pm)

Dogs are for life, not just for Christmas, as the saying goes. So it seems rather fitting that we're off to the Old Windsor and Brands Hatch sites of the Battersea Dogs and Cats Home to find out how a few unwanted and neglected pooches are going to spend the festive season. There's a real tear-jerker to kick the hour-long special off: Paul meets Peppermint Patty, a Parson Russell Terrier brought in with a massive lump on her neck.

Doctor Who

(BBC1, Christmas Day, 6.15pm)

As usual when it comes to Doctor Who, we have scant details to offer you. That's because showrunner Steven Moffat is slightly obsessed with keeping his plots a secret in case spoilers leak out. Now, we applaud that idea, but a few morsels to whet the appetite would be nice.

So, what do we know? Well, Peter Capaldi is still the gallivanting Gallifreyan, Jenna Coleman is back as Clara and Nick Frost makes a guest appearance as the one and only Santa Claus.

Miranda

(BBC1, Christmas Day, 7.15pm)

There are some ever-reliable rules of comedy that rarely fail to gain a laugh. Large and small things side by side? Funny. People falling over? Funny? Large people falling over smaller people? Hilarious. Miranda Hart adheres to all the tried and tested rules for her hit sitcom, but the whole thing is executed with such skill, it doesn't matter that it's all been done before.

In this festive rib-tickler, the first of a two-part special, the unlucky-in-love shop owner has received two proposals of marriage.

Call the Midwife

(BBC1, Christmas Day, 7.50pm)

It's 2005 when we catch up with the Call the Midwife ladies – but not for long. Yes, regular viewers, there's no need to worry – the programme hasn't just skipped 40-odd years of its characters' lives. Instead, an aged Jennifer Worth merely introduces the story as she reminisces about her youth at Nonnatus House while preparing to celebrate Christmas with her husband Philip. She remembers back to 1960, as Chummy attempts to choreograph a dance involving little girls dressed as snowflakes for the Sunday School Christmas concert – it's a task that proves to be far harder than she imagined.

Chummy is soon whisked away to help run a dilapidated mother and baby home, and Patsy helps her bring a little joy into the unfortunate residents' lives.

One of three – Period comedy Mapp & Lucia

9.4m viewers watched Mrs Brown's Boys last year

Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs at Christ-

to delight us

The Incredible Adventures of Professor Branestawm

Festive rib-tickler Miranda on Christmas Day

Tess and Claudia in Strictly Come Dancing

Dennis in David Walliams' The Boy in a Dress

Dustin Hoffman and Judi Dench in Esio Trot

Downton Abbey

(ITV, Christmas Day, 9pm)

After the shenanigans in the special short film shot for Text Santa, it's time to get back down to business for the Crawley family. They've been invited to a shooting party at Lord and Lady Sinderby's estate, but as usual it doesn't turn out to be the welcome break anyone had hoped for. Alun Armstrong guest stars as the Sinberbys' butler Stowell, who seems to have an axe to grind about something, while a scandalous secret could turn someone's world upside down.

Mrs Brown's Boys

(BBC1, Christmas Day, 10.05pm)

Believe it or not, foul-mouthed Mrs Brown has been around for more than 20 years now (her beginnings were in stage and radio plays), although we'd put money on the fact that if Brendan O'Carroll was to be asked in his younger years what he'd like to do with his life, he wouldn't have answered along the lines of donning a fat suit and stockings to play a bolshy matriarch.

In the first of two Christmas specials, Agnes is curious about the arrival of a large box for Cathy – even more curious when she realises everyone apart from her seems to know what's inside. However, her mind is soon taken off that with Rory's announcement that he planning on having cosmetic surgery.

Still Open All Hours

(BBC1, Boxing Day, 6.25pm)

Open All Hours without Ronnie Barker may have initially seemed unthinkable, but last year's one-off Still Open All Hours got round the problem by revealing that one-time delivery boy Granville (David Jason) had taken his head out of the clouds – well, most of the time – and become a penny-pinching shopkeeper in his own right. And it proved so popular with viewers, it's back for a full series.

The Boy in a Dress

(BBC1, Boxing Day, 6.55pm)

David Walliams has quite the imagination, but that's not news to us; this is a man who's never too far from a good old ratings-grabber. Now, the Beeb is airing another of his most popular books, with some TV greats brought on board for good measure.

It tells the story of 12-year-old Dennis (Billy Kennedy), who leads an ordinary life, but feels different. He wants to escape to some sort of magical world, and manages to find it in Raj's newsagent when a chance sighting in a fashion magazine introduces him to a whole new world of creativity. But whether he can get away with wearing a dress in the eyes of his headmaster, dad and school mates is an altogether different quandary.

Birds of a Feather

(ITV, Boxing Day, 9pm)

Sharon and Tracy are going on holiday to the Canary Islands. Well, that's the plan at least, but Tracy's fear of flying may scupper their plans.

Meanwhile, Dorien has dressed like an explosion in a paint factory, much to the delight of the studio audience at least.

Mapp & Lucia

(BBC1, December 29, 30, 31, 9.05/9pm)

One of three. A period comedy starring Miranda Richardson and Anna Chancellor, shown over three nights.

Roald Dahl's Esio Trot

(BBC1, New Year's Day, 6.30pm)

Dustin Hoffman and Judi Dench – together at last. The veteran stars make a wonderful double act in this adaptation of Roald Dahl's much-loved children's story.

Action from the soaps

Very merry Soapland?

EASTENDERS

(BBC1)

The Carters are all set for a traditional Christmas in the Vic, complete with rows, heartache and shocking revelations. Stacey has already worked out one of the family's secrets ahead of schedule as she encourages Linda to open up about being raped.

Once her suspicions are confirmed, Stacey dumps Dean, who reacts by threatening Linda that unless she tells his ex that it was all a mistake, he'll share his version of events with Mick.

An emotional Linda says goodbye to Johnny

The landlady agrees, on the condition that Dean stays away from her family, only for the drunken salon owner to turn up at the pub on Christmas Day anyway.

Meanwhile, Shirley and Aunt Babe are much more concerned to learn Mick has invited Sylvie for dinner, increasing the chances of someone dropping a bombshell over the turkey, but which secret will be revealed – and how will the landlord react?

CORONATION STREET

(ITV)

Tony and Tracy agree to keep quiet about their bed-based moment of madness. However, Todd spots Tracy getting out of Tony's van, and is later intrigued when he lies to Liz about where he's been and claims he hasn't seen Tracy.

Meanwhile, Steve decides to pay off his hefty car repair bill with Streetcars cash. When he then throws a big party at the Rovers, and returns from the shops with a big bag of goodies, some are curious about how he's funding it all.

Caught? – Todd sees Tracy getting out of Tony's van

Meanwhile, Gary falls out with his family over a duplicate Christmas present. He pays the price when he decides to steal from the cafe till, and a furious Roy beats him with a cricket bat.

EMMERDALE

(ITV)

Childhood sweethearts Andy and Katie are planning to celebrate Christmas by tying the knot again, but not everyone is happy for them.

Bernice admits to Kerry that she can't face doing the bride's hair and makeup because she's still in love with the groom, while Robert manages to get into a fight with his brother beside their parents' graves on the stag night – leaving Victoria and Diane concerned about what he's got planned for the wedding.

Robert offers Aaron some advice, only to be rejected

The big day itself gets off to an ominous start as a hungover Kerry starts retching dangerously near to the dress, and only gets worse when a drunken Bernice staggers into the church. But will anyone find a way of derailing the ceremony?

Elsewhere, Aaron is uneasy when Robert offers to invest in his and Adam's business, Rakesh warns Kirin not to rush to settle down, and Jai proposes to Megan.

Oswestry & Border Chronicle Thursday, December 25, 2014

Go veggie with a tasty nutty treat

CHEESY, NUTTY STRUDEL

Ingredients (Serves 4)

100g TOTAL Greek yoghurt
1 tbsp olive oil
300g pack small shallots, peeled and halved
50g walnuts, chopped
30g dried cranberries
2 sprigs sage, finely chopped reserving 3 whole leaves
75ml white wine or dry sherry
3 sheets filo pastry (½ a 270g pack)
Spray olive oil
40g white breadcrumbs
1 medium egg
100g rinded goat's cheese, cubed
For the cabbage
1 small red cabbage, finely shredded
4 clementines, 2 zested & juiced, 2 segmented
2 tbsp dark brown sugar
1 bay leaf

Method

1. Heat the oven to 200°C / 400°F / Gas Mark 6. Heat the oil in a frying pan, add the shallots and cook for 5 minutes until golden, cover with a lid and cook for a further 5 minutes.
2. Add walnuts, cranberries, sage and wine and cook, loosely covered until the wine has evaporated. Cool for 10 minutes.
3. Meanwhile, put the cabbage, zest and juice, sugar and bay leaf in a large saucepan, loosely cover and cook for 45 minutes, stirring occasionally until soft. Season well, and stir through the clementine segments.
4. Lay a sheet of filo on the worktop and spray lightly with oil, repeat with 2 more layers. Scatter the breadcrumbs lengthways down the middle of the pastry, about 8cm wide, leaving a 5cm space at both ends.
5. Mix the egg and yoghurt then mix into the shallots with the goat's cheese. Spoon onto the breadcrumbs, fold up the short ends to cover the filling, then fold the sides over to enclose.
6. Transfer to a large baking sheet lined with baking paper. Spray the surface with oil and season again.
7. Bake for 25-30 minutes until deep golden and crisp.
8. Garnish with reserved sage and serve with the braised cabbage.

For more recipes visit uk.fage.eu/recipes

CRANBERRY CRUMBLE

Ingredients (Serves 4-6)

4 pears, peeled, cored, sliced
1 tablespoon lemon juice
60g (2oz) Ocean Spray Craisins
1 teaspoon cinnamon
85g (3 oz) caster sugar
For the topping
170g (6 oz) plain flour
60g (2 oz) rolled oats
pinch of salt
85g (3 oz) caster sugar
150g (5 oz) butter

Method

1. Pre-heat the oven to 190C/375F/Gas Mark 5.
2. As you prepare the pears, toss in the lemon juice to prevent browning.
3. Mix the pears, Ocean Spray Craisins (dried cranberries), cinnamon and sugar and tip into a shallow, oven proof dish.
4. Mix the flour with the oats and salt. Rub in the butter until the mixture resembles breadcrumbs, stir in the sugar.
5. Scatter the crumble mixture over the fruit.
6. Bake for 30-40 minutes until browned and bubbling.
7. Serve hot or warm with custard or cream.

For more recipes visit www.oceanspray.co.uk

Christmas Eve

BBC 1

Dawn French heads the cast of The Vicar of Dibley, on at 10.15pm

Early View

6.00 Breakfast Round-up of national and international news, plus the latest from the money markets. **9.00 Snow Babies** Young animals surviving in some of the coldest places on Earth. (R) **10.00 Nigel Slater's 12 Tastes of Christmas** Part one of two. Nigel creates a selection of festive dishes. (R) **11.00 FILM: WALL.E (2008)** Pixar animated adventure, with the voice of Ben Burtt. ★★★★ **12.30 Christmas of My Lifetime with Len Goodman** With Ricky Tomlinson, Jennie Bond and Ainsley Harriott. **1.30 BBC News 1.40 BBC Regional News;** Weather. **1.45 FILM: Wallace & Gromit in The Curse of the Were-Rabbit (2005)** Oscar-winning animated adventure, with the voice of Peter Sallis. ★★★

Prime Time

3.05 Merry Madagascar (R)
3.25 Shrek the Halls (R)
3.50 The Gruffalo's Child (R)
4.15 On Angel Wings
4.45 One Hundred and One Dalmatians (1961) ★★★★
6.05 BBC News
6.15 Midlands Today; Weather.
6.25 Toy Story 3 (2010) Animated adventure, with the voice of Tom Hanks. ★★★★
8.00 EastEnders Linda states that Dean is not welcome for Christmas dinner – so he confronts her with a blackmail threat. Jane is furious when Alfie spreads gossip about her and Ian.
8.30 The Incredible Adventures of Professor Branestawm Comedy drama, starring Harry Hill as the absent-minded inventor, who has a battle on his hands when a local councillor tries to run him out of town for being a nuisance.
9.30 Not Going Out Christmas Special The will-they-won't-they tension between Lee and Lucy reaches unseen new highs in this epic finale for Christmas. Lee Mack, Sally Bretton and Bobby Ball star. Last in the series.
10.15 The Vicar of Dibley Alice suggests an unconventional nativity starring herself and Hugo as Mary and Joseph. (R)
10.55 Mrs Brown's Boys Agnes tries to find out what her grandson wants for Christmas and loses her temper at the family games night when no one plays by her rules. (R)
11.30 BBC News; Weather; National Lottery Update
11.45 Midnight Mass from Arundel Cathedral Live Roman Catholic Mass from Arundel in West Sussex, led by the Rev Canon Tim Madeley.

Late View

1.05 FILM: Sliding Doors (1998) ★★★ **2.40 Weather for the Week Ahead 2.45 BBC News**

BBC 2

Gareth Malone, The Choir: New Military Wives, on at 9.00pm

Early View

6.10 FILM: The Crimson Wing: Mystery of the Flamingos (2008) ★★★ **7.20 Canterbury Cathedral** (R) **8.20 FILM: One of Our Dinosaurs Is Missing (1975)** ★★★ **9.55 Celebrity Antiques Road Trip** (R) **10.55 Christmas Kitchen with James Martin** (R) **11.40 Christmas Kitchen with James Martin** (R) **12.35 Torvill & Dean: The Perfect Day** The ice-dancing duo's gold medal-winning performance at the 1984 Winter Olympics. (R) **1.35 The Choir: New Military Wives** Part one of two. Gareth Malone forms a choir to perform at a First World War centenary Prom. (R) **2.35 FILM: Little Women (1994)** Period drama, starring Winona Ryder. ★★★

Prime Time

4.25 To the Manor Born Christmas revival from 2007. Audrey and Richard plan a party to celebrate 25 years of marriage. (R)
5.25 Carols from King's Music and readings from the Chapel of King's College, Cambridge, including Stille Nacht, The Lamb, The Three Kings and Up! Good Christen Folk and Listen.
6.40 The Good Life Tom fears he and Barbara have no money set aside for their old age. George Cole guest stars in the final episode of the sitcom, made for the 1978 Royal Command Performance. (R)
7.10 Victoria Wood with All the Trimmings The comedienne sends up Christmas TV in a festive special from 2000, with guest stars Julie Walters, Alan Rickman, Pete Postlethwaite, Delia Smith and Richard E Grant. (R)
8.00 Christmas University Challenge Graduates of King's College, Cambridge, take on Royal Holloway, University of London, with former BBC correspondent Martin Bell and journalist Francis Wheen among the contestants.
8.30 The Choir: New Military Wives Part two of two. Gareth Malone and his 100-strong amateur choir join forces with the National Theatre's production of War Horse for a Prom performance at London's Royal Albert Hall.
9.30 Julie Walters: A Life on Screen The actress chats about her career, from her beginnings in theatre through to her successes in TV and film. With contributions by Victoria Wood, Celia Imrie and Hugh Bonneville.
10.30 Calendar Girls (2003) Fact-based comedy drama, with Helen Mirren. ★★★

Late View

12.15 FILM: Buster (1988) Fact-based crime drama, starring Phil Collins. ★★★ **1.45 This Is BBC Two**

ITV

Aled Jones presents Christmas Carols on ITV, shown at 11.00pm

Early View

6.00 Good Morning Britain A lively mix of news and current affairs, plus health, entertainment and lifestyle features. **8.30 Lorraine** With guest Ben Caplan. **9.25 FILM: All Stars (2013)** Two kids try to save their youth centre from closure by putting on a dance show, but find themselves short of talent. Comedy, with Theo Stevenson and Akai Osei-Mansfield. ★★ **11.35 FILM: Horrid Henry: The Movie (2011)** Children's comedy, starring Theo Stevenson. ★ **1.20 ITV News and Weather 1.35 Doc Martin Christmas Special: On the Edge** Aunt Joan keeps quiet about a rare bird nesting on her land to deter egg thieves, but Martin lets out the news, prompting an influx of tourists. Comedy, starring Martin Clunes. (R)

Prime Time

3.35 Off Their Rockers A pensioner attempts a daredevil escape from a care home. (R)
4.05 Santa Claus: The Movie (1985) Family fantasy adventure, starring Dudley Moore. ★★
6.15 You've Been Framed! At Christmas Harry Hill narrates a festive and comical selection of mishaps filmed by viewers, featuring a kid wrestling a Christmas tree and the world's most terrifying present. (R)
6.45 ITV News and Weather
7.00 Emmerdale Cain intrigues Charity when PC Swirling arrives to discuss his missing car, Bernice struggles with her emotions the day before Andy's wedding and Lachlan offers Belle a legal high.
7.30 Coronation Street Gary is gutted after buying Jake the same present as Anna, Lloyd discovers Jenna has been arrested in Spain, and Roy offers to run the soup kitchen from his cafe.
8.00 Skyfall (2012) Premiere. James Bond hunts the mastermind behind a terrorist attack on MI6, and discovers a former agent with revenge in mind. Action thriller, with Daniel Craig and Javier Bardem. ★★★★
10.45 ITV News and Weather
11.00 Christmas Carols on ITV Aled Jones is joined by Collabro, Lucy Kay, Mica Paris and Shaun Escoffery for a candlelit Christmas Eve carol service from St Mary's Church in Prestwich, Greater Manchester.

Late View

12.00 FILM: Elizabeth: The Golden Age (2007) Elizabeth I wrestles with her feelings for Sir Walter Raleigh while Spain prepares for a naval attack on England. Historical drama sequel, starring Cate Blanchett and Clive Owen. ★★★ **2.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA** (R) **2.50 ITV Nightscreen** Text-based information service. **5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show** (R)

CH4

The Snowman and the Snowdog, is shown at 7.55pm

Early View

7.15 Olive, the Other Reindeer Animation, with the voice of Drew Barrymore. (R) **8.10 The Big Bang Theory** The pals try to start a conversation with a sci-fi star. (R) **8.40 The Big Bang Theory** (R) **9.05 The Simpsons** Cartoon capers. (R) **9.35 The Simpsons** Cartoon capers. (R) **10.10 FILM: The Iron Giant (1999)** Animated adventure, with the voice of Vin Diesel. ★★★★ **11.50 Father Christmas** Seasonal animation based on Raymond Briggs' book. (R) **12.30 FILM: Big Miracle (2012)** Premiere. Fact-based drama, starring Drew Barrymore. ★★★ **2.35 Channel 4 News** Including sport and weather. **2.45 FILM: The Grinch (2000)** Fantasy comedy, starring Jim Carrey. ★★★

Prime Time

4.50 The Muppet Christmas Carol (1992) Puppet comedy, starring Michael Caine. ★★★
6.25 Hollyoaks Hour-long episode. Ste and John Paul's big day arrives, while Tony hosts Christmas dinner for his loved ones, unaware Sinead is harbouring a secret.
7.25 Ice Age: A Mammoth Christmas Festive spin-off of the animated films. Sid the sloth tries to redeem himself after accidentally ruining one of Manny the mammoth's Christmas traditions. With John Leguizamo. (R)
7.55 The Snowman and the Snowdog Animated sequel to classic festive tale The Snowman, in which a boy's snowman and snowdog magically come to life and take him on an adventure to the North Pole. (R)
8.30 My Big Fat Gypsy Christmas: Tinsel and Tiaras The festive season, traveller-style, featuring a spectacular Christmas-themed wedding, a family heading back to the Emerald Isle and an entrepreneur planning a gypsies-only party. (R)
9.30 Gogglebox 2014 A chance to see some of the best moments from the past year of the reality show, featuring the nation's favourite armchair critics commenting on popular TV programmes.
11.00 Rude Tube Christmas Cracker 2014 Alex Zane presents a selection of festive internet clips that have proved popular around the world.

Late View

12.05 The Inbetweeners (R) **12.35 The Inbetweeners** (R) **1.05 The Inbetweeners** (R) **1.30 The Inbetweeners** (R) **1.55 FILM: Rare Exports: A Christmas Tale (2010)** Comedy horror, starring Onni Tommila. (English Subtitles) ★★★ **3.20 FILM: Toys (1992)** Comedy, with Robin Williams. ★★ **5.20 Kirstie's Vintage Gems** (R) **5.35 Small Animal Hospital** (R)

CH5

Noddy Holder narrates Britain's Craziest Christmas Lights, 7.20pm

Early View

6.00 Milkshake! 9.30 FILM: Gone with the Wind (1939) A plantation heiress has a tumultuous relationship with a roguish Southern gentleman during the American Civil War. Epic romantic drama, starring Vivien Leigh and Clark Gable. ★★★★ **1.50 FILM: The Adventures of Robin Hood (1938)** An outlawed nobleman living deep in Sherwood Forest recruits a band of merry men to steal from the cruel Norman aristocracy and redistribute the wealth to the downtrodden peasants. However, they soon face a more pressing task - stopping the evil Prince John and his ally Sir Guy of Gisborne from seizing King Richard's throne. Swashbuckling adventure, with Errol Flynn and Claude Rains.★★★★

Prime Time

3.50 Scrooge – A Christmas Carol (1951) Charles Dickens' fantasy, starring Alastair Sim. (b/w) ★★★★
5.35 Michael Buble's Christmas 2014 Festive special, with guest appearances by Barbra Streisand, Ariana Grande and Miss Piggy. (R)
6.30 My Big Xmas Benefits Blow-Out Christmas for people living on state welfare, including a woman struggling to buy gifts for her eight children and two friends who rummage through shops' bins. (R)
7.20 Britain's Craziest Christmas Lights Noddy Holder narrates a documentary following four households as they transform their homes into electric winter wonderlands with extensive displays of festive illuminations; (R) 5 News Update
8.25 The Dog Rescuers with Alan Davies: Christmas Special The QI regular and comedian throws a party for some of the stars of the last series, and RSPCA officer Derek Hampson hands out presents to rescue dogs across England and Wales; 5 News Update
9.30 Greatest Ever Christmas Movies Countdown of the best festive films, from It's a Wonderful Life to Bad Santa. Featuring contributions by Gremlins star Zach Galligan and Miracle on 34th Street's Mara Wilson. (R)

Late View

12.30 FILM: Scrooge – A Christmas Carol (1951) A hard-hearted skinflint is taught the error of his ways by a succession of spectral visitors. Adaptation of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol, with Alastair Sim and Mervyn Johns. Colourised version. (b/w) ★★★★ **2.20 SuperCasino 4.00 House Doctor** (R) **4.25 House Doctor** A split-level bungalow in Perthshire. (R) **4.45 House Doctor** A converted chapel in Yeovil, Somerset. (R) **5.10 House Doctor** (R) **5.35 Wildlife SOS**

Christmas Day

BBC 1

Michael McIntyre's Very Christmassy Christmas Show, on at 10.40pm

6.00 Breakfast Headlines and business news. **9.00 The Gruffalo** (R) **9.30 On Angel Wings** (R) **10.00 Come and Join the Celebration** Traditional service from St George's Church in Leeds. **11.00 Only Fools and Horses** Christmas special from 1986. Rodney dates an aristocrat's daughter. (R) **12.00 Wallace & Gromit: A Grand Day Out** The animated heroes go to the moon. (R) **12.25 FILM: Gnomeo & Juliet (2011)** Animated comedy, with the voices of James McAvoy and Emily Blunt. ★★★ **1.40 Shaun the Sheep** The animals decorate the farmhouse for Christmas. (R) **1.50 BBC News;** Weather. **2.00 Top of the Pops Christmas** The year's most successful chart acts.

BBC 2

James May's Toy Stories: Action Man at the Speed of Sound, 5.10pm

6.00 FILM: Sinbad: Legend of the Seven Seas (2003) Animated adventure, with the voice of Brad Pitt. ★★★ **7.15 FILM: Short Circuit (1986)** Sci-fi comedy adventure, starring Steve Guttenberg. ★★★ **8.50 FILM: Pollyanna (1960)** Family drama, starring Hayley Mills. ★★★ **11.00 Carols from King's** (R) **12.15 To the Manor Born** Audrey takes Christmas very seriously. (R) **12.45 The Choir: New Military Wives** Part two of two. The women perform at the Royal Albert Hall. (R) **1.45 60 Years of Carols from King's** The history of the annual Christmas service broadcast. **2.45 Kiss Me, Kate at the Proms** A performance of Cole Porter's musical at the Royal Albert Hall.

ITV

David calls at the bistro to see Nick in Coronation Street, on at 8.00pm

6.00 CITV: The Aquabats! Super Show! (R) **6.25 Pat & Stan** (R) **6.30 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures** (R) **6.40 Dino Dan** (R) **6.55 Sooty** (R) **7.05 Almost Naked Animals** (R) **7.20 Almost Naked Animals** Children's animation. (R) **7.40 Horrid Henry** (R) **7.55 Horrid Henry** (R) **8.10 Horrid Henry** (R) **8.25 Weekend at Christmas** New series. Aled Jones presents a festive edition of the chat show. **9.25 FILM: Valiant (2005)** Computer-animated adventure, with the voice of Ewan McGregor. ★★★ **10.55 FILM: Back to the Future (1985)** Sci-fi comedy adventure, starring Michael J Fox. ★★★★ **1.10 FILM: Nanny McPhee (2005)** Period fantasy, starring Emma Thompson. ★★★

Ch4

Sarah Millican, Alan Carr: Chatty Man Christmas Special, on at 9.00pm

6.00 FILM: The Ugly Duckling and Me (2006) ★★★ **7.30 Prep & Landing** (R) **7.55 Prep & Landing: Naughty v Nice** (R) **8.20 Father Christmas** (R) **8.55 FILM: Animals United (2010)** ★★ **10.45 The Simpsons** (R) **11.15 The Simpsons** (R) **11.45 The Simpsons** (R) **12.15 Ice Age: A Mammoth Christmas** Festive spin-off of the animated films, with the voice of John Leguizamo. (R) **12.45 The Snowman** Animated adventure, based on Raymond Briggs' festive tale. (R) **1.20 The Snowman and the Snowdog** (R) **1.50 The Alternative Christmas Message 1.55 Channel 4 News Summary 2.05 FILM: Scrooged (1988)** Christmas comedy, starring Bill Murray. ★★★

Ch5

Justin Hawkins, Britain's Favourite Christmas Songs, on at 8.00pm

6.00 Milkshake! 9.10 Access Showbiz news and gossip. **9.20 Andre Rieu: Christmas Around the World** A Christmas concert by the violinist, featuring sumptuously festive performances of White Christmas, Hallelujah and Jingle Bells. Part of Sing-Along Christmas Day. **10.20 FILM: Scrooge (1970)** A miserly man is taught the error of his ways by a host of spectral visitors. Musical adaptation of Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol, starring Albert Finney and Alec Guinness. ★★★ **12.35 The Sound of Music – Live!** A novice nun brings joy into the lives of seven children when she becomes their governess. Adaptation of Rodgers and Hammerstein's musical, starring Carrie Underwood. (R)

Early View

3.00 The Queen
3.10 Puss in Boots (2011) Premiere. Animated comedy spin-off, with the voice of Antonio Banderas. ★★★
4.40 BBC News; Weather.
5.00 Strictly Come Dancing Christmas Special Six previous contestants compete for the Christmas trophy.
6.15 Doctor Who
7.15 Miranda The hit sitcom returns for the final two episodes, which pick up where the last one left off, with the shop owner deciding whether to accept Gary or Mike's proposal.
7.50 Call the Midwife Chummy is asked to help out at a mother-and-baby home whose residents have little in the way of Christmas cheer, while Cynthia assists two former patients of a psychiatric hospital.
9.00 EastEnders Hour-long episode. Christmas Day gets off to a good start for the Carters but soon goes downhill when Sylvie arrives – and then Dean turns up. Cindy is alarmed by a suspicious gift.
10.05 Mrs Brown's Boys The first of two festive editions. Mrs Brown tries to work out what is inside a parcel addressed to Cathy and discovers Rory is planning to have plastic surgery.
10.40 Michael McIntyre's Very Christmassy Christmas Show An hour of festive entertainment, with Jamie Oliver, Rob Brydon, Barbara Windsor and Robbie Williams.
11.40 BBC News; Weather.
11.55 On Christmas Night Adjoa Andoh reflects on the implications of Jesus's birth for his mother.

12.00 Not Going Out Christmas Special (R) **12.45 Would I Lie to You? at Christmas** (R) **1.15 George Michael at the Palais Garnier, Paris** (R) **2.15 FILM: The Heartbreak Kid (2007)** ★★★ **4.05 Skiing Weatherview 4.10 BBC News**

Prime Time

5.00 Sign Zone: The Queen Her Majesty's annual address. (R)
5.10 James May's Toy Stories: Action Man at the Speed of Sound The Top Gear presenter attempts to propel an Action Man through the sound barrier.
6.15 Morecambe and Wise in Pieces: The Sketches Penelope Keith presents another edition of the occasional series, this time trawling the archives for bite-sized routines from the comedy duo's shows.
7.15 Christmas University Challenge Distinguished graduates of the universities of Edinburgh and Leeds compete, with novelist Philippa Gregory and football commentator Jacqui Oatley among the contestants.
7.45 Dad's Army Mainwaring finds himself bidding against Pike for an orange at a fundraising bazaar. Last in the series. (R)
8.30 Blackadder's Christmas Carol Kindly Victorian pushover Ebenezer Blackadder is visited by the Spirit of Christmas and gains an insight into the dastardly deeds of his ancestors. Starring Rowan Atkinson.
9.00 Tim Rice – A Life in Song A concert from London's Royal Festival Hall celebrating the work of the Oscar-winning lyricist, who also reminisces about his career, in the company of Michael Grade.
10.30 QI Christmas Stephen Fry hosts a festive edition of the comedy quiz, with Carrie Fisher, Bill Bailey, Phill Jupitus and Alan Davies.
11.00 Marvellous Fact-based feature-length comedy drama about the life of Neil Baldwin. Toby Jones stars. (R)

12.30 FILM: The Producers (2005) ★★★ **2.35 This Is BBC Two**

3.00 The Queen Her Majesty's annual address.
3.10 The Queen's Garden Part one of two. Exploring Buckingham Palace Garden.
4.10 ITV News and Weather
4.20 Elf: Buddy's Musical Christmas Stop-motion animated adventure based on the film Elf.
5.20 New You've Been Framed! At Christmas A festive selection of funny clips, narrated by Harry Hill.
5.50 Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs at Christmas The comedian helps out at Battersea Dogs & Cats Home over the festive period.
6.50 ITV News and Weather
7.00 Emmerdale Hour-long episode. Bernice and Robert threaten Andy and Katie's wedding day, Laurel takes in an unwelcome dinner guest, Lachlan leads Belle astray and Jai proposes to Megan.
8.00 Coronation Street Hour-long episode. Kylie is horrified when Callum turns up at her doorstep, Amy and Tony are taken aback by how much Steve has spent and Tracy grabs Tony under the mistletoe.
9.00 Downton Abbey Lord Sinderby invites the Crawleys to a grouse-shooting party at Brancaster Castle, but the butler has an axe to grind and a scandalous secret threatens to derail the holiday.
11.00 ITV News and Weather
11.15 You've Got to Love Christmas Jane Horrocks narrates a comic trawl through the TV archives, guiding viewers through the pitfalls and perils of the festive season, with contributions from famous faces. (R)

12.15 Christmas Carols on ITV A candlelit Christmas Eve carol service from St Mary's Church in Prestwich. (R) **1.15 FILM: Murder, She Wrote: The Celtic Riddle (2003)** Mystery, starring Angela Lansbury. ★★ **2.45 ITV Nightscreen 5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show** (R)

4.00 Big (1988) Comedy, starring Tom Hanks. ★★★
6.00 Arthur Christmas (2011) Premiere. Santa's son tries to make sure a girl accidentally missed off his father's list gets her presents. Animated comedy, with the voices of James McAvoy and Jim Broadbent. ★★★
8.00 Frozen at Christmas The makers of Disney's Frozen, the most successful animated film of all time, talk about its creation and production, and the writing and performance of its most popular songs.
9.00 Alan Carr: Chatty Man Christmas Special Festive fun with the comedian and Terry Wogan, Sarah Millican, Dan Stevens, Emma Willis and Gino D'Acampo. Sam Smith, George Ezra and McBusted provide the music. Last in the series.
11.00 8 Out of 10 Cats Christmas Special Jimmy Carr hosts a festive edition of the comedy panel show, with guests Andrew Flintoff, Kevin Bridges and Roisin Conaty joining team captains Sean Lock and Jon Richardson. (R)

12.00 Father Ted Christmas Special Fathers Ted and Dougal endure their worst Christmas ever when they get lost in a lingerie department, leaving them in a highly embarrassing predicament. Festive edition from 1996. (R) **1.05 Father Ted** The priests go on holiday. (R) **1.35 Father Ted** The priests organise a raffle. (R) **2.00 Father Ted** Craggy Island's most famous religious relic is upgraded. (R) **2.30 FILM: Crazy Heart (2009)** A washed-up alcoholic country music star is granted a new lease of life when he falls for a journalist. Drama, starring an Oscar-winning Jeff Bridges, with Maggie Gyllenhaal. ★★★ **4.25 Secret Eaters** (R) **5.20 Small Animal Hospital** A horse with hoof problems visits the vets. (R) **5.50 FILM: Flicka (2006)** Family drama, with Alison Lohman. ★★★

3.25 Chitty Chitty Bang Bang (1968) Children's musical adventure, starring Dick Van Dyke. ★★★
6.10 Michael Buble's Christmas Songbook The Canadian crooner sings Christmas classics and appears in a variety of comedy sketches, and is joined by Rod Stewart, Blake Shelton, Carly Rae Jepsen, Elmo and Oscar the Grouch. Part of the Sing-Along Christmas Day strand. (R)
7.05 Chas & Dave's Xmas Knees Up! Festive entertainment from 1982, with guests including Eric Clapton, Jimmy Cricket, Jim Davidson, Albert Lee and Lennie Peters joining the Cockney duo. Part of Sing-Along Christmas Day. (R)
8.00 Britain's Favourite Christmas Songs A countdown of songs guaranteed to make any Christmas party go with a swing, including classics by the Jackson 5, Jona Lewie, Band Aid, the Pogues and Kirsty MacColl, and Slade. Part of Sing-Along Christmas Day. (R)
11.05 Muriel's Wedding (1994) A downtrodden Abba-obsessed woman heads for the bright lights of Sydney to fulfil her dreams of the perfect wedding. Comedy, with Toni Collette, Bill Hunter and Rachel Griffiths. Part of Sing-Along Christmas Day. ★★★

1.20 SuperCasino Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. **4.00 House Doctor** Ann Maurice visits Headcorn in Kent, where she and Tris Payne try to create the illusion of space in a tiny cottage for a couple who want to sell up before they have a baby. (R) **4.25 House Doctor** A flat in Kensal Green, west London. (R) **4.50 Wildlife SOS** The work of an animal sanctuary. (R) **5.10 House Doctor** A property in Ashover Hay, Derbyshire. (R) **5.35 Wildlife SOS**

Late View

11.40 BBC News; Weather.
11.55 On Christmas Night Adjoa Andoh reflects on the implications of Jesus's birth for his mother.

12.00 Not Going Out Christmas Special (R) **12.45 Would I Lie to You? at Christmas** (R) **1.15 George Michael at the Palais Garnier, Paris** (R) **2.15 FILM: The Heartbreak Kid (2007)** ★★★ **4.05 Skiing Weatherview 4.10 BBC News**

FESTIVE COOKING

Simplicity is the secret

PUSHED FOR TIME ON CHRISTMAS DAY? KEEP IT SIMPLE AND YOU CAN STILL PRODUCE A TURKEY WITH THE WOW FACTOR, SAYS JEANANNE CRAIG

There's something about roasting 'the bird' on December 25 that makes us more stressed than a Bake Off contestant whose Baked Alaska has melted.

With a simple recipe like the ones below, and the odd shortcut when it comes to the trimmings, you can still find time to unwrap presents and quaff Buck's Fizz with the rest of the family.

HERB-BUTTERED TURKEY, ROASTIES & CRANBERRY SAUCE GRAVY
(Serves 6)
Prep: 30mins
Cook: 2hrs
4 garlic cloves, crushed
2 handfuls of parsley leaves, finely chopped
100g butter, softened
3kg turkey crown
11/2kg new potatoes, halved if large, quartered if huge
Salt and pepper
For the sauce:
2tbsp plain flour
3tbsp chunky cranberry sauce
Splash of port
600ml chicken stock
1tbsp soy sauce (optional)
Salt and pepper

Herb buttered turkey, roasties & cranberry

Heat the oven to 200C/180C fan/gas mark 6. Tip the garlic, parsley and butter together in a bowl, season generously with black pepper and a pinch of salt, then beat with a wooden spoon until everything is combined. Place the turkey crown on a board with the thick part of the breast facing away from you. Use your hands to make two pockets between the skin and the meat, then smear the flavoured butter beneath the skin and all over the breast, working down so that the breast is completely covered.

Tip the new potatoes into a large roasting tray. Sit the turkey on top, skin side up, then roast for 30 minutes. Remove from the oven, sit the turkey on a board and give the potatoes a good shake. Then place the turkey back in the tin, spoon over some of the buttery juices and continue to cook for another 40-50 minutes until the turkey is dark golden.

Transfer the turkey to a board to rest, loosely covered in foil, then continue to cook the potatoes for 20 minutes to brown. Use a slotted spoon to scoop the potatoes into a serving dish, reserving the buttery juices in the pan. Put the potatoes to one side and keep warm.

To make the cranberry gravy, place the roasting pan on a lowish heat and stir in the flour. Let everything sizzle and brown, then add the cranberry sauce and a splash of port. Sizzle everything for a few minutes until really sticky, then stir in the stock, bring to the boil and cook until thick or to your liking, seasoning to taste. If the gravy is on the pale side or a bit too sweet, stir in a splash of soy sauce.

ROAST TURKEY WITH SAGE & ONION BUTTER AND MARSALA GRAVY
(Serves 8 with leftovers)
Prep: 20 mins
Cook: 4hrs 45mins
7kg fresh turkey
2 onions, halved
1 lemon, quartered
75g soft butter
3tbsp finely chopped fresh sage
2tbsp plain flour
200ml Marsala wine or Madeira
400-500ml hot chicken stock
1tbsp cranberry jelly
Salt and pepper

Roast turkey with sage & onion butter and marsala gravy

Heat oven to 170C/150C fan/gas mark 3-4, and place the turkey in a large roasting tin. Tuck three of the onion halves and the lemon quarters into the cavity and season. Cover with foil, make sure there's plenty of space between the turkey and foil for the air to circulate and seal the edges tightly, so that no steam escapes. Roast for four hours.

Meanwhile, finely chop the remaining onion half, and mix with the butter and sage. Take the turkey out of the oven and raise the temp to 200C/180C fan/ gas mark 6. Brush the sage and onion butter all over the turkey and return to the oven, uncovered, for 45 minutes until crisp and dark golden. If you're making the roasties, then start them in the oven when the turkey goes back in.

Transfer the turkey to a warm serving plate, cover loosely with foil and leave to rest for 30 minutes. Tip the juices out of the pan into a bowl, leave for a moment to settle, then scoop the buttery oil from the surface into a separate bowl. Spoon two tablespoons of this oil back into the tin and return to the heat.

Stir the flour into the tin using a wooden spoon, scraping the residue off the bottom of the tin as you go. Cook for two minutes, then stir in the Marsala or Madeira and bring to the boil. Make the reserved turkey juices up to 500ml using hot chicken stock and pour into the tin. Bring to the boil and simmer for a few minutes, then add cranberry jelly. Keep warm until ready to serve.

Oswestry & Border Chronicle Thursday, December 25, 2014

A trolley full to the brim with treats

CHRISTMAS TIME IS HERE AND BESIDES PRESENTS AND CAROLS, IT'S THE SEASON OF FOOD AND DRINK

The supermarket shelves are well stocked with goodies, with sweet and savoury treats aplenty.

We've been shopping for you and picked out some of our favourite food finds this year.

If you need some purse-friendly starters then head to where the mums go, Iceland. The salmon and prawn shells are a steal at £2 for two. The big shells are filled with salmon and prawns in a creamy sauce and topped with a crumb coating. And if you fancy a meaty main but aren't satisfied with plain turkey then try the chain's five-bird roast. Chicken, turkey, duck, goose and guinea fowl surround a pork, sage and onion stuffing. The meat is topped with streaky bacon, along with a cranberry and port glaze. The best bit, it's only £10, and serves six to eight people.

Five-bird roast

Christmas is all about children and to really get them in the merry mood high street favourite M&S has a decorate your own gingerbread men kit. With chocolate buttons, mini marshmallows and sprinkles for decorating, it will keep them entertained in the run up to the big day. The kit costs £4 and makes six biscuits.

Italian panettone

Along with a net bag of chocolate money the store also does a bag of sprouts and clementines. Great little stocking fillers at £2 a bag.

And for something a little different and decadent a jar of raisins in dark rum syrup can be a great topping for ice cream and other desserts. A 380g jar costs £4.

Talking desserts, Sainsbury's festive offerings are plentiful. The Taste the Difference range has several traditional choices. Its orange and cranberry Christmas pudding, costs £12. The pudding is filled with orange and cranberry marmalade, orange liqueur, almonds and pecan nuts.

Keeping with the orange and cranberry theme it's also selling an Italian panettone. The cake is made with candied orange, sweetened cranberry and butter, produced by the Corsini family in their Tuscan bakery and costs £10.

Christmas wouldn't be the same without cake and mince pies. The Taste the Difference mini mince pies are a little bit different and are filled with a blackcurrant mincemeat with a hint of warmth from crème de cassis. Very luxurious and at £3.50 is perfect to offer to guests popping by.

The winter woodland iced rich fruit cake with cognac is beautifully decorated and costs £16 but will last through the holidays.

Serrano ham leg

Budget supermarket Aldi has come up trumps again this year with its gorgeous festive food catalogue. It's full of low-priced food and drink.

The Specially Selected Serrano ham leg has been naturally cured and matured. The traditional Spanish whole leg of ham has a distinctively aromatic and nutty quality and comes with a stand, knife and sharpening steel. It costs £44.99 for 6.5kg.

If you've got room after your dinner, enjoy the Swiss biscuit selection. Delicious oven baked biscuits with soft creamy fillings and the finest Swiss chocolate. A 250g box costs £3.99. Or bring out the Florentines costing £1.70 for 170g.

Wash all this down with a glass of Glen Marnoch 24-year-old single malt whisky. Finished in hand crafted oak barrels, the rich, luxurious single malt has notes of vanilla, toffee and leather, priced at £49.99 for 70cl.

Boxing Day

BBC 1

Nick says goodbye to his family in EastEnders, shown at 8.00pm

Early View

6.00 Breakfast Headlines and business news. **9.00 FILM: Pinocchio (1940)** Disney animated adventure, with the voice of Dick Jones. ★★★★ **10.25 CBeebies Peter Pan** Musical adaptation of JM Barrie's tale. **11.05 Room on the Broom** (R) **11.30 FILM: Cool Runnings (1993)** Fact-based sporting comedy, starring John Candy. ★★★ **1.05 BBC News;** Weather. **1.15 BBC Regional News and Weather 1.25 The Incredible Adventures of Professor Branestawm** Comedy drama, starring Harry Hill as the absent-minded inventor. (R) **2.20 My Family Christmas Special** The Harpers celebrate Christmas 2039, with an 80-year-old Ben as grumpy as ever. (R)

Prime Time

3.15 Monsters, Inc (2001) Two monsters try to get a little girl who has wandered into their world back home before anyone finds out. Pixar animated comedy, with the voices of John Goodman and Billy Crystal. ★★★

4.40 The Pirates! In an Adventure with Scientists! (2012) Premiere. Animated comedy, with the voice of Hugh Grant. ★★★

6.05 BBC News; Weather.

6.20 Midlands Today; Weather.

6.25 Still Open All Hours New series. David Jason returns as shopkeeper Granville, who is forced to take extra security precautions – causing him no end of discomfort. The next episode is on Sunday at 7.30pm.

6.55 The Boy in the Dress Family comedy based on David Walliams' children's book about a 12-year-old boy who shocks his family and friends when he starts cross-dressing.

8.00 EastEnders The fallout continues for the Carters as more lies are exposed, while Dot is heartbroken when Charlie hands Nick his ferry tickets and drives him away from Walford.

8.30 Avengers Assemble (2012) Premiere. Iron Man, Thor, Captain America and the Hulk unite to defend Earth from an alien invasion. Superhero adventure, with Robert Downey Jr, Chris Evans and Chris Hemsworth. ★★★★

10.40 BBC News

10.50 BBC Regional News and Weather; National Lottery Update

11.00 Match of the Day Highlights of the Boxing Day Premier League fixtures, which included Chelsea v West Ham United and Arsenal v Queens Park Rangers.

Late View

12.35 EastEnders (R) **3.30 Weather for the Week Ahead 3.35 BBC News**

BBC 2

Festive skits in Victoria Wood's Midlife Christmas, 8.00pm

6.10 FILM: The Road to El Dorado (2000) Animated adventure, with the voices of Kenneth Branagh and Kevin Kline. ★★★ **7.30 FILM: College Road Trip (2008)** Family comedy, starring Martin Lawrence. ★ **8.50 Queen of Tigers: Natural World Special** Colin Stafford-Johnson films the life of tiger Machli in India. (R) **9.50 Ten Pieces 10.40 60 Years of Carols from King's** The history of the annual Christmas service broadcast. (R) **11.40 FILM: On the Town (1949)** Musical, starring Gene Kelly, Frank Sinatra and Jules Munshin. ★★★★ **1.15 Gene Kelly: Talking Pictures** A profile of actor and dancer Gene Kelly. (R) **1.50 FILM: Singin' in the Rain (1952)** Musical comedy, starring Gene Kelly. ★★★★

3.30 Victoria Wood: That Musical We Made The comedienne presents a behind-the-scenes look at the film That Day We Sang which she wrote and directed, as well as the events that inspired the story.

4.30 Final Score Jason Mohammad presents a round-up of this afternoon's results from the Premier League and Football League.

5.25 War Horse at the Proms The BBC Concert Orchestra is joined by Gareth Malone and the Military Wives for music and stories from the First World War, inspired by Michael Morpurgo's novel.

6.45 Christmas University Challenge Graduates of Trinity Hall, Cambridge, and Balliol College, Oxford, compete. Doctor Who star Dan Starkey and and Liberal Democrat MP Alan Beith are among the contestants.

7.15 The Two Ronnies: Christmas Show Vintage comedy from Messrs Barker and Corbett. (R)

8.00 Victoria Wood's Midlife Christmas A festive special from 2009 that attempts to cram a night's Christmas viewing into an hour. Highlights include the Midlife Olympics, and costume drama Lark Pies to Cranchesterford. (R)

9.00 That Day We Sang A children's choir reunites in 1969 after a 40-year interval, prompting two members to reflect on their lives. Victoria Wood's musical drama, with Imelda Staunton and Michael Ball.

10.30 Hunky Dory (2011) Premiere. A teacher at a 1970s Welsh school persuades her students to stage a musical based on Shakespeare's The Tempest. Drama, with Minnie Driver. ★★★

12.15 FILM: The Winslow Boy (1999) Drama, with Nigel Hawthorne. ★★★ **1.55 This Is BBC Two**

ITV

Kermit the Frog features in A Christmas Cracker, shown at 8.00pm

6.00 CITV: The Aquabats! Super Show! (R) **6.20 Pat & Stan** (R) **6.30 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures** (R) **6.40 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures** (R) **6.55 Sooty** (R) **7.05 Almost Naked Animals** (R) **7.20 Almost Naked Animals** (R) **7.35 Mr Bean: The Animated Series** (R) **7.50 Super 4** (R) **8.10 Super 4** (R) **8.25 Weekend at Christmas 9.25 Dinner Date: Australia** (R) **10.25 Celebrity Squares** (R) **11.25 Paul O'Grady: For the Love of Dogs at Christmas** (R) **12.30 ITV News and Weather 12.45 The Chase: Christmas Special** With Steve Pemberton, Paula Lane, Ben Miller and Mr Burton. Last in the series. (R) **1.45 FILM: Back to the Future Part II (1989)** Sci-fi comedy sequel, starring Michael J Fox. ★★★

3.45 Off Their Rockers Velma gets racy in a photo booth. (R)

4.15 Downton Abbey Lord Sinderby invites the Crawleys to a grouse-shooting party at Brancaster Castle, but the butler has an axe to grind and a scandalous secret threatens to derail the holiday. (R)

6.15 ITV News and Weather

6.30 Emmerdale Jai spots the man who sold him Archie and Megan wants to take action, knowing this is her only chance to find Rachel. Katie comes up with an idea to get Robert out of her life.

7.00 Coronation Street Hour-long episode. Gary has an unexpected encounter after trying to steal from the cafe till, and a drunk David makes a shock announcement in the Rovers.

8.00 A Christmas Cracker Bradley Walsh hosts a festive spectacular from the Hammersmith Apollo with a variety of guests, including Al Murray, Katherine Jenkins, the Muppets, the Vamps and Flawless.

9.00 Birds of a Feather New series. The hit sitcom begins its second series on ITV with a Christmas special. Dorien splashes out on a trip to the Canary Islands, taking Sharon and Tracey with her.

9.30 Through the Christmas Keyhole Keith Lemon noses around the homes of mystery celebrities and challenges the panel – Jonathan Ross, Louis Walsh and Kym Marsh – to work out their identities.

10.30 ITV News and Weather

10.45 Out of Sight (1998) A US Marshal pursues an escaped convict, but as the chase intensifies, so do their feelings for each other. Romantic crime drama, starring George Clooney. ★★★

12.50 Jackpot247 3.00 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA (R) **3.45 ITV Nightscreen**

CH4

Bear's Wild Weekend with Ben Stiller, shown at 8.00pm

7.25 The Bear Animation based on the Raymond Briggs tale. (R) **7.55 The Morning Line** Nick Luck and guests are at Kempton Park to preview today's races. **9.00 The Big Bang Theory** Leonard's mother visits. (R) **9.25 The Big Bang Theory** Leonard fails to get Sheldon into the Christmas mood. (R) **9.55 FILM: Inspector Gadget (1999)** Disney comedy adventure, starring Matthew Broderick. ★ **11.30 FILM: Horton Hears a Who! (2008)** An elephant discovers a city on a speck of dust and vows to protect it, but the other animals think he has gone mad. Animated comedy, with the voices of Jim Carrey and Steve Carell. ★★★ **1.15 Channel 4 Racing** Clare Balding and Nick Luck present live coverage.

3.50 Turner & Hooch (1989) Family canine comedy, starring Tom Hanks. ★★★

5.50 Channel 4 News Including sport and weather.

6.00 The Simpsons Four tales celebrating the festive season. Bart hatches a plan to hold Santa Claus hostage, and Katy Perry leads the family in a rendition of The 39 Days of Christmas.

6.30 Hollyoaks Sinead's life hangs in the balance, while Ste and John Paul's future looks uncertain, and Nancy is left with a difficult decision to make.

7.00 Marvel's Agents of SHIELD Coulson and Whitehall's forces meet in an explosive confrontation that dramatically alters the fate of everyone involved, while Skye discovers some shocking secrets about her past.

8.00 Bear's Wild Weekend with Ben Stiller Survivalist Bear Grylls is partnered with actor and director Ben Stiller for a 48-hour, action-filled trek into the wilds of Scotland that pushes them to the limit. (R)

9.00 The Big Fat Quiz of the Year 2014 Richard Ayoade, David Mitchell, Mel B, Micky Flanagan, Sarah Millican and Kevin Bridges battle it out to see who knows the most about the past 12 months. Jimmy Carr hosts.

11.00 Alan Carr: Chatty Man Christmas Special Festive fun with guests Terry Wogan, Sarah Millican, Dan Stevens, Emma Willis and Gino D'Acampo. Last in the series. (R)

1.05 FILM: Legend (1985) Fantasy adventure, with Tom Cruise. ★★ **2.45 FILM: Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid (1969)** Western, starring Paul Newman. ★★★★ **4.35 Small Animal Hospital** (R) **5.00 Small Animal Hospital** (R) **5.25 FILM: Flicka 2 (2010)** Premiere. Family drama, starring Tammin Sursok. ★★★

CH5

Tommy Cooper's Christmas Special, shown at 9.25pm

6.00 Milkshake! 9.55 Access Showbiz news and gossip. **10.05 FILM: Carry On Constable (1960)** A staff shortage forces a police inspector to take on four bumbling new recruits, who only increase the crime rate. Comedy, starring Sid James, Kenneth Williams and Kenneth Connor. Part of Best of British Comedy Day. (b/w) ★★★ **11.45 FILM: Carry On Teacher (1959)** A headmaster's hopes of landing a job at a better school are ruined by his naughty pupils, who do not want him to leave. Comedy, with Ted Ray, Kenneth Connor and Kenneth Williams. Part of Best of British Comedy Day. (b/w) ★★★ **1.30 FILM: Carry On Nurse (1959)** Comedy, starring Kenneth Williams and Hattie Jacques. (b/w) ★★★

3.15 The Ladykillers (1955) Ealing black comedy, starring Alec Guinness. ★★★★

5.00 A Shot in the Dark (1964) Comedy, starring Peter Sellers. ★★★

7.05 Rob Brydon Live A stand-up show recorded at Norwich's Theatre Royal during the comedian and actor's first UK tour in 2009, featuring comic tales, impressions, songs and anecdotes. Part of Best of British Comedy Day. (R)

8.00 Morecambe & Wise Live! 1973 The duo's performance at the Ashcroft Theatre in Croydon's Fairfield Halls in October 1973, which was the only one of their stage shows captured on film. Part of Best of British Comedy Day. (R)

9.25 Tommy Cooper's Christmas Special Festive edition of the comic magician's show from 1974, featuring music by Dana and Vic Damone and a guest appearance by French puppeteer Andre Tahon. Part of Best of British Comedy Day. (R)

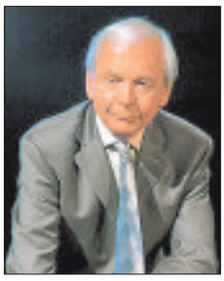
10.25 Carry On Christmas The gang's first TV special, originally broadcast in 1969, which consists of sketches based on A Christmas Carol. With Sid James, Barbara Windsor and Frankie Howerd. Part of Best of British Comedy Day. (R)

11.30 Greatest Ever Carry On Films A rundown of the most memorable moments from the classic comedy film series, including flying bikinis, suggestive laughs and infamous catchphrases. Part of Best of British Comedy Day. (R)

12.35 FILM: Carry On Spying (1964) Comedy, starring Kenneth Williams. (b/w) ★★★ **2.20 SuperCasino 3.10 Britain's Craziest Christmas Lights** (R) **4.00 Great Scientists** (R) **4.25 House Doctor** (R) **4.45 House Doctor** (R) **5.10 House Doctor** (R) **5.35 Wildlife SOS** (R)

Saturday 27 December

BBC 1



John Humphrys hosts Celebrity Mastermind, shown at 6.20pm

6.00 Breakfast A round-up of national and international news, plus sports reports, weather forecasts and arts and entertainment features. **8.25 Match of the Day** Chelsea v West Ham United. (R) **10.00 Saturday Kitchen** With chefs Jason Atherton, Ben Tish and Thomasina Miers. **11.30 Nigel Slater's New Year Suppers** The cook prepares sumptuous dishes from seasonal produce. (R) **12.00 BBC News;** Weather. **12.10 Football Focus** Dan Walker and guests review the week's Premier League action. **12.50 Saturday Sportsday 1.00 Lewis Hamilton: Duel of the Silver Arrows 2014** Suzi Perry presents a look back at the 2014 F1 season. **2.10 Sport Relief: The Final Score**

BBC 2

Stephen Fry asks the questions in QI Christmas XL, 10.30pm

6.10 Natural World: Animal House (R) **7.10 FILM: Herbie Goes to Monte Carlo (1977)** The adventurous Volkswagen Beetle competes in a rally, where he tangles with jewel thieves and falls in love. Disney comedy adventure sequel, starring Dean Jones and Roy Kinnear. ★★★ **8.50 FILM: Ensign Pulver (1964)** Navy comedy, starring Robert Walker. ★★ **10.30 TOTP2: Christmas 2014** Festive performances from the Top of the Pops archive. (R) **12.00 The Hairy Bikers' Asian Adventure** Dave Myers and Si King go on a culinary journey around Asia. (R) **1.00 FILM: The Cheyenne Social Club (1970)** ★★★ **2.40 Yes Minister** Christmas special. Hacker runs for prime minister. (R)

ITV

More comedy in An Audience with Joan Rivers, 11.05pm

6.00 CITV: The Aquabats! Super Show! (R) **6.25 Pat & Stan** (R) **6.35 Pat & Stan** (R) **6.40 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures** (R) **6.50 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures** (R) **7.05 Canimals** (R) **7.10 Canimals** (R) **7.20 Signed Stories: Share a Story** (R) **7.25 Scooty** (R) **7.35 Mr Bean: The Animated Series** (R) **7.50 Hulk and the Agents of Smash 8.10 Horrid Henry 8.25 Weekend at Christmas 9.25 FILM: Columbo: Negative Reaction (1974)** ★★★ **11.25 ITV News and Weather;** Weather. **11.30 Dickinson's Real Deal** (R) **12.25 The Cube** (R) **1.25 Tipping Point** (R) **2.30 FILM: Back to the Future Part III (1990)** Sci-fi comedy sequel, starring Michael J. Fox. ★★★

Ch4

Danny Dyer features in 50 Funniest Moments 2014, on at 9.30pm

7.05 Lost and Found Magical tale about a boy and a penguin. (R) **7.30 Famous Fred** Animation about a singing cat, with the voice of Lenny Henry. (R) **8.00 The Morning Line** A preview of today's races from Kempton Park and Chepstow. **9.00 Frasier** Two women vie for Frasier's attention. (R) **9.30 The Simpsons** Lisa loses control of her imagination when she makes a new friend. (R) **10.00 The Simpsons** Homer learns a distressing fact about his schooldays. (R) **10.30 The Simpsons** Principal Skinner rediscovers the joy of teaching. (R) **11.00 FILM: Alaska (1996)** Action adventure, with Thora Birch. ★★★ **1.10 Channel 4 Racing** Live coverage of this afternoon's races.

Ch5

Chas & Dave's Xmas Knees Up!, shown at 7.35pm

6.00 Milkshake! 9.20 Access Showbiz news and gossip. (R) **9.30 World's Strongest Man 2014** The final round of the Giants Live qualifiers. (R) **10.30 FILM: Pal Joey (1957)** A roguish nightclub singer struggles to cope with the demands of a wealthy socialite and his love for a chorus girl. Musical comedy, with Frank Sinatra, Rita Hayworth and Kim Novak. ★★★ **12.45 FILM: The Secret Garden (1993)** An orphan girl restores a garden to its former glory with the help of a village boy. Children's drama, based on Frances Hodgson Burnett's book, with Kate Maberly and Maggie Smith. ★★★ **2.45 FILM: Watership Down (1978)** Animated drama based, featuring the voices of John Hurt and Richard Briers. ★★★

Early View

3.10 How to Train Your Dragon (2010) Animated fantasy, with the voice of Jay Baruchel. ★★★

4.40 Kung Fu Panda 2 (2011) Animated comedy sequel, with the voice of Jack Black. ★★★

6.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

6.20 Celebrity Mastermind

6.50 Pointless Celebrities Comedians including Ronni Ancona, Robert Webb and Richard Herring take part.

7.40 The National Lottery: Win Your Wish List New series. Shane Richie hosts this game show in which two contestants answer questions to try to win each other's dream prizes. Including the lottery draws, with Gaby Roslin.

8.30 Bruce's Hall of Fame The veteran entertainer hosts a one-off special from the London Palladium in which celebrities including Jessie Wallace, Jason Manford and Ben Miller perform as their idols.

9.40 Mrs Brown's Boys The first of two festive editions. Mrs Brown tries to work out what is inside a parcel addressed to Cathy and discovers Rory is planning to have plastic surgery. (R)

10.15 BBC News; Weather; National Lottery Update

10.35 Live at the Apollo Hal Cruttenden hosts an evening of stand-up at the Apollo in Hammersmith, London.

11.05 Not Going Out: The Out-Takes As the sitcom comes to an end, a chance to see some of the unscripted moments that ended up on the cutting-room floor.

11.35 Not Going Out Christmas Special Lee Mack, Sally Bretton and Bobby Ball star. Last in the series. (R)

12.20 FILM: The Hot Chick (2002) ★★ **2.00 Weather for the Week Ahead 2.05 BBC News**

3.45 The Eagle Has Landed (1976) Second World War spy adventure, with Michael Caine. ★★★

5.55 Dad's Army (1971) British comedy, starring Arthur Lowe. ★★★

7.30 Operation Grand Canyon with Dan Snow Part one of two. The historian joins a team recreating a pioneering 280-mile expedition through the natural wonder that was led by explorer John Wesley Powell in 1869. (R)

8.30 Top Gear Patagonia Special Part one of two. Jeremy Clarkson, Richard Hammond and James May take used sports cars on a gruelling trip to the world's southernmost city to stage a game of car football.

9.30 James May's Toy Stories: Action Man at the Speed of Sound The Top Gear presenter attempts to propel an Action Man through the sound barrier, settling on an experimental supersonic vehicle made entirely from scratch. (R)

10.30 QI Christmas XL Extended version. Stephen Fry hosts a festive edition of the comedy quiz, with Carrie Fisher, Bill Bailey, Phill Jupitus and Alan Davies answering Christmas-themed questions.

11.15 Harry & Paul's Story of the 2s Harry Enfield and Paul Whitehouse take an irreverent look at the history of BBC Two, featuring parodies of The Office, Boys from the Blackstuff, Arena and The Apprentice. (R)

12.15 FILM: I Confess (1953) Alfred Hitchcock's thriller, with Montgomery Clift and Anne Baxter. (b/w) ★★★ **1.45 Sign Zone: Canterbury Cathedral** Canon treasurer Nick Papadopulos hopes his application for a £12million grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund is successful. (R) **2.45 Sign Zone: Wonders of the Monsoon** (R) **3.45 This Is BBC Two**

Prime Time

4.40 Elf: Buddy's Musical Christmas Stop-motion animated adventure based on the film Elf. Buddy travels to New York City to meet the father he never knew he had. With the voices of Jim Parsons and Mark Hamill. (R)

5.40 ITV News Central; Weather.

5.50 ITV News and Weather

6.05 You Saw Them Here First Robert Webb delves into the archives to reveal the TV debuts of famous faces, featuring Alexander Armstrong, Dame Edna Everage, Derek Thompson, Rudolph Walker and Will Mellor.

7.00 Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1 (2010) The teenage wizard and his friends search for the magical artefacts that will allow them to destroy the evil Voldemort. Fantasy adventure, with Daniel Radcliffe and Ralph Fiennes. ★★★

9.50 Darcy Oake: Edge of Reality After wowing the judges in Britain's Got Talent, the daredevil magician returns to the screen with a one-off special, hosted by Christine Bleakley at Blackpool's Opera House.

10.45 ITV News and Weather

11.05 An Audience with Joan Rivers The comedienne holds court as a host of famous faces encounter her brash style up close. The star-studded audience includes Linford Christie, Dave Spikey and Carol Thatcher. (R)

12.00 FILM: Clockwise (1986) An obsessively punctual headmaster's trip to a convention turns into a frantic race against time after he catches the wrong train. Comedy, starring John Cleese and Alison Steadman. ★★★ **1.40 Jackpot247 3.00 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA 3.40 ITV Nightscreen**

3.35 Zulu (1964) Fact-based historical drama about two British Army officers who rallied a small force of men against the might of 4,000 Zulu warriors in 1879. With Michael Caine and Stanley Baker. ★★★

6.20 Channel 4 News Including sport and weather.

6.40 Guy Martin's Passion for Life Documentary following the life of the motorcycle racer, offering a snapshot of his favourite things and showing him at work as a lorry mechanic, a job he is passionate about. Originally released on 4oD.

7.10 Mission: Impossible 2 (2000) A secret agent battles a former spy-turned-criminal mastermind intent on stealing a deadly man-made virus. John Woo's action thriller sequel, starring Tom Cruise and Dougray Scott. Edited for language and violence. ★★★

9.30 50 Funniest Moments 2014 Famous faces help count down the year's top 50 hilarious incidents across the worlds of TV, music, sport, politics and the internet – most of them unintentional.

11.00 X-Men: The Last Stand (2006) The mutant heroes battle old ally Jean Grey, returned from the dead as the destructive and seemingly unstoppable Phoenix. Superhero sequel, starring Hugh Jackman. ★★★

1.10 FILM: The Raven (2012) Premiere. Edgar Allan Poe helps a detective stop a serial killer who is acting out the horrific murders from the writer's stories. Thriller, starring John Cusack and Luke Evans. ★★ **3.00 Hollyoaks** Omnibus. (R) **5.15 Secret Eaters** Two sisters have their diets scrutinised in an attempt to explain their expanding midriffs. (R)

4.35 Seven Brides for Seven Brothers (1954) Musical Western, starring Howard Keel. ★★★★

6.35 World's Strongest Man 2014 Action from the opening heat at the Commerce Casino in Los Angeles, where the top two were guaranteed a place in the Grand Final.

7.35 Chas & Dave's Xmas Knees Up! Festive entertainment from 1982, with guests including Eric Clapton, Jimmy Cricket, Jim Davidson, Albert Lee and Lennie Peters joining the Cockney duo. (R)

8.30 The Dog Rescuers with Alan Davies: Christmas Special The QI regular and comedian throws a party for some of the stars of the last series, and RSPCA officer Derek Hampson hands out presents to rescue dogs across England and Wales. (R)

9.30 5 News Weekend Round-up of the day's headlines from around the world.

9.35 The Haunting of Radcliffe House A couple and their children move to an estate on the Yorkshire moors and are plagued by a series of paranormal events. Supernatural drama, with Olivia Williams and Matthew Modine.

11.25 True Crimes: The First 72 Hours Police believe a suspect who robbed an armoured car at gunpoint in Winnipeg, Canada, is the same man responsible for a series of thefts dating back several years. (R)

11.55 Access Showbiz news and gossip. (R)

12.00 SuperCasino 3.10 Kids' Hospital at Christmas A 14-year-old is rushed into the A&E department. Last in the series. (R) **4.00 House Doctor** (R) **4.25 Make It Big** (R) **4.50 Make It Big** (R) **5.15 Angels of Jarm** (R) **5.20 Angels of Jarm** (R) **5.30 Angels of Jarm** (R) **5.40 Roary the Racing Car** (R) **5.50 Roary the Racing Car** (R)

Late View

FESTIVE COCKTAILS

Cocktails to impress

RUDOLPH'S BLUSH

A fruity, indulgent treat, featuring Ciroc Red Berry vodka, blackberry liqueur and fresh lemon juice that is sure to get everyone in the mood for the seasonal festivities.

Ingredients
40ml Ciroc Red Berry
15ml fresh lemon juice
10ml Creme de Mure*
5ml sugar syrup
10ml egg white
Garnish
Angostura bitters
Raspberries
Icing sugar
Preparation method
Shake ingredients without ice (dry shake). Then add plenty of ice and shake hard. Fine strain into a chilled coupe glass. To garnish, add a drop of Angostura bitters or alternatively, place a raspberry on top with a dusting of icing sugar.

MIDNIGHT TREAT

A decadent indulgent cocktail with rich notes of raisin, chocolate and leather that embodies the spirit of 19th century Paris in all its splendour.

Ingredients
50ml Courvoisier Extravagance
10ml Benedictine DOM
5ml Chartreuse VP
Absinthe spray
Garnish
Rosemary sprig
Method
Stir the ingredients over ice in a mixing glass or tin. Strain over ice into a brandy balloon and garnish with a sprig of rosemary. For an added touch of decadence, spray a mist of absinthe over the cocktail. If you are feeling brave, flame the absinthe mist as you spray.

MULLED CHAMPAGNE

A seasonal champagne cocktail, akin to a Kir Royale with notes of spiced cranberry and pomegranate.

Ingredients
300ml cranberry juice
200ml pomegranate juice
300ml caster sugar
50gm Chinese five spice powder
150ml Veuve Clicquot
Garnish
Orange zest
2 tsp pomegranate seeds
For the spiced syrup
In a pan gently heat the cranberry and pomegranate juices. Stir in caster sugar and the five spice powder. Do not boil. Continue to stir until the sugar dissolves. Fine strain the syrup to remove the solids and cool.
Method
Pour a glass of Veuve Clicquot until it's 2/3 full. Add 20ml of the cooled spiced syrup and stir. Garnish with an orange zest and pomegranate seeds.

THE NUTCRACKER

A rich yet refreshing long cocktail, with sweet vanilla, spice, hazelnut and pear notes.

Ingredients
40ml Glenmorangie Dornoch (Travel Exclusive)
15ml Frangelico*
10ml Poire Williams Eau de vie**
100ml Ginger Beer
Garnish
Hazelnut chocolate
Mint sprig
Method
Pour all ingredients in a glass over ice, garnish with a mint sprig and a halved hazelnut centre chocolate.

Recipes courtesy of World Duty Free. Visit www.worlddutyfree.com

Oswestry & Border Chronicle Thursday, December 25, 2014

The perfect partnership

EAT, DRINK, AND BE MERRY – SAM WYLIE-HARRIS SELECTS WINES FOR CHRISTMAS

One of the joys of Christmas Day is the fanfare of food and wine, but as most hosts will agree, choosing a 'perfect' wine to serve throughout the endless flavours, meals and courses can be less joyful.

WHITES

The Exquisite Collection Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc 2013, New Zealand (£7.99, Aldi)

You don't have to spend a fortune to have a touch of class on Christmas Day with this fresh, fruity sauvignon blanc which has enough depth of flavour to make it a cut above many which cost more. Neither too citrus-based nor too sweet, pair it with starters of smoked salmon and horseradish mayonnaise, or goat's cheese and beetroot salad.

Champ Divin Chardonnay 2013, Jura, France (£15.60, www.tanners-wines.co.uk)

A little gem from the Jura that's fruity, fresh and food-friendly, this is a new-world style of chardonnay that's expressive with plenty of ripe, tropical fruits and enough fresh acidity to make it a great match with seafood tartars and soft cheeses. Made from organic and biodynamic grapes, Champ Divin translates to 'divine field' and it's very easy to like.

Domaine Chaume Arnaud, La Cadene Blanc 2011, Cotes du Rhone Villages, France (£16.75, www.bbr.com)

The price of greatness can sometimes be less than you think, especially with little nuggets like this brilliant blend of viognier, marsanne and roussanne. Uplifting from the very first sip, it's fragrant and full with sumptuous peach, quince and passion fruit flavours and, while it's slightly unctuous, the fruit is lightened by a delicious freshness and purity on the finish.

Oldenburg Vineyards Chenin Blanc 2012, South Africa (£16.99, www.sawinesonline.co.uk)

A bright white from a boutique winery that bridges the gap between a chardonnay and a sauvignon blanc, it's full-bodied and punchy with tropical fruits, melon and baked apple aromas with a touch of oaky vanilla, but with ample acidity to enjoy with smoked salmon and turkey.

Laroche La Collegiale Chablis 2012, France (£15.99, or £11.99 when you buy two, Majestic)

A Burgundy blonde from a highly respected producer, this elegant chablis offers pronounced mineral pleasure from the famous limestone soil that surrounds the banks of the River Serein. With no oak influence, this is a fresh and fruity chardonnay with crisp acidity on the finish and a wine with real presence.

REDS

Chateau La Tour De Bessan Margaux 2010, France (£24, Oddbins)

A top-notch claret from a great vintage, this is pure, refined and smooth enough to drink now. The gentle cabernet fruit has floral aromas with blueberry hints, fine tannin structure and a gorgeous long finish with the class and elegance you would expect from a fine Margaux.

Ogier Clos De L'Oratoire Des Papes 2012, Chateauneuf-Du-Pape, France (£18.25 from £20.25, from now until January 1, Sainsbury's)

A superstar red from legendary producers Ogier, this young vintage is drinking beautifully with a nose of black cherry, spice and herbs leading to ripe cherry fruits, and a hint of sweetness on the long, silky finish. Ideal with white meat, it's worth buying one to drink now, and one to lay down in the cellar.

La Rioja Alta, Vina Arana Reserva 2005, Spain (£21.95, www.bbr.com)

A tempranillo temptress from a leading bodegas renowned for its quality, the wine opens with a heady air of sweet ripe cherries, cedar and tobacco, with bold flavours of black forest fruits and sandalwood on the finish.

SWEETS AND FORTIFIEDS

The Society's Exhibition Sauternes 2012, France (£9.95, 37.5cl, www.thewinesociety.com)

A blend of citrus and exotic fruits on the nose, this light, silky sauternes has good minerality and honeyed guava and passion fruit notes. Perfect to accompany traditional Christmas pudding or something a little different like a nutty Italian Panforte.

Sandeman Vau Vintage 2003, Portugal (£17 from £22, now until December 16,Tesco)

Pass the port please... Rich like treacle, sweet, and lush with plummy, stewed fruits on the nose, it's so moreish you'll wonder why you don't bring out the port more often. Divine with a box of truffles or chocolate coins.

Delamain Pale & Dry XO Premier Cru Grande Champagne Cognac, France (£19.99 from £25, 20cl, Waitrose)

One for the snifter and a must to flame the Christmas pud, this top notch eau-de-vie is made from a blend of Grande Champagne cognacs and has a powerful floral nose with delicate hints of caramel and honeyed, sweet fruits on the lingering finish. Superb after dinner.

Sunday 28 December

BBC 1

David Jason stars in Still Open All Hours, shown at 7.30pm

6.00 Breakfast A round-up of national and international news. **9.00 FILM: G-Force (2009)** Children's adventure, starring Bill Nighy. ★★ **10.20 FILM: Three Men and a Little Lady (1990)** A trio of surrogate dads rush to stop the girl in their care from being whisked away abroad by her mother. Comedy sequel, starring Tom Selleck, Ted Danson and Steve Guttenberg. ★★ **12.00 Christmas of My Lifetime with Len Goodman** With Ricky Tomlinson, Jennie Bond, Julia Bradbury and Ainsley Harriott. (R) **1.00 BBC News;** Weather. **1.15 Bargain Hunt** Two teams test their antiques knowledge. (R) **1.55 Call the Midwife** Chummy is asked to help out at a mother-and-baby home. (R)

Early View

3.10 Songs of Praise A celebration of musical moments and memorable stories from the past year.

3.45 Raiders of the Lost Ark (1981) Action adventure, starring Harrison Ford. ★★★★

5.35 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

6.00 Celebrity Mastermind Rob Deering, Amy Willerton, Andy Bell and Jason Watkins answer questions on the novels of Jane Austen, Anne Boleyn, Blondie and theatre impresario David Garrick.

6.30 Countryfile John Craven visits an agricultural college that makes wine from grapes grown on the South Downs, and presents a compilation of archive items about rural celebrations. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.

7.30 Still Open All Hours Granville is determined to match-make Gastric and Madge and also sets his sights on an old man who never comes into the shop, while Wet Eric is lured into a dangerous purchase.

8.00 Antiques Roadshow The team visits Durham Cathedral, where treasures include a sweetheart brooch linked to the Grenadier Guards and a set of documents offering information about the D-Day landings.

9.00 Last Tango in Halifax New series. Celia and Alan's honeymoon plans have to be put on hold, Gillian joins the dating scene and Caroline proposes to a heavily pregnant Kate.

10.00 BBC News; Regional News; Weather.

10.25 Match of the Day Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches.

11.55 The Football League Show

1.15 FILM: Goal II: Living the Dream (2007) ★★★ **3.05 Weather for the Week Ahead 3.10 BBC News**

BBC 2

Noel Fielding features in Never Mind the Buzzcocks, 10.30pm

6.50 Sign Zone: Antiques Roadshow Fiona Bruce presents highlights and updates from the past year. (R) **7.50 FILM: Herbie Goes Bananas (1980)** Disney adventure, starring Cloris Leachman. ★★ **9.20 Coast Australia** (R) **10.10 Saturday Kitchen Best Bites** Highlights of the series. **11.40 The Hairy Bikers' Asian Adventure** Dave Myers and Si King head to Thailand. (R) **12.40 Julie Andrews: Talking Pictures** Profile of the Mary Poppins actress. **1.25 Great Continental Railway Journeys** Michael Portillo travels through Poland. (R) **2.25 FILM: The Heroes of Telemark (1965)** Second World War thriller, starring Kirk Douglas and Richard Harris. ★★★

4.30 Final Score A round-up of this afternoon's football results.

5.30 Flog It! From Ely Cathedral, Cambridgeshire. (R)

6.00 John Carter (2012) Premiere. An American Civil War soldier is transported to an alien world, where he tips the balance in an epic conflict. Fantasy adventure, starring Taylor Kitsch and Lynn Collins. ★★★

8.00 Top Gear Patagonia Special The conclusion of the two-part special in which Jeremy Clarkson, Richard Hammond and James May take three sports cars on a trip through Patagonia to the world's southernmost city.

9.00 Racing Legends: Barry Sheene New series. Jim Moir pays tribute to the former motorcycle racing world champion, examining how Sheene rose to the top of his sport and became a hugely popular public figure.

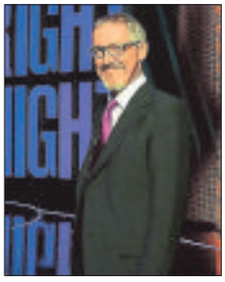
10.00 House of Fools Christmas Special Bob's celebrations are cut short when the special present he organised for Erik is engulfed in flames. With Vic Reeves and Bob Mortimer.

10.30 Never Mind the Buzzcocks Rhod Gilbert hosts a festive edition of the comedy quiz, with Louis Walsh, Glen Matlock, Lloyd Langford and Melissa Steel joining captains Phill Jupitus and Noel Fielding. (R)

11.00 The Wrong Mans Sam and Phil are forced to come out of hiding and embark on an international quest to get home for Christmas. (R)

12.00 The Comedy Vaults: BBC2's Hidden Treasure (R) **1.00 FILM: Suspicion (1941)** Alfred Hitchcock's thriller, starring Cary Grant. (b/w) ★★★ **2.40 Sign Zone: Countryfile** (R) **3.35 Sign Zone: Holby City** (R) **4.35 This Is BBC Two**

ITV



Griff Rhys Jones, All New It'll Be Alright on the Night, shown at 9.00pm

6.00 CITV: The Aquabats! Super Show! (R) **6.25 Pat & Stan** (R) **6.35 Pat & Stan** (R) **6.40 Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures** (R) **7.05 Canimals** (R) **7.10 Canimals** (R) **7.20 Signed Stories: Share a Story** (R) **7.25 Sooty** (R) **7.35 Mr Bean: The Animated Series** (R) **7.50 Ultimate Spider-Man 8.10 Horrid Henry 8.25 Weekend at Christmas 9.25 FILM: Columbo: Double Exposure (1973)** ★★ **11.00 ITV News and Weather;** Weather. **11.15 The Cube** (R) **12.15 Michael Flatley: A Night to Remember** (R) **1.15 Tipping Point** Quiz show, hosted by Ben Shephard. (R) **2.20 Catchphrase Christmas Special** (R)

3.20 ET: The Extra-Terrestrial – 20th Anniversary Edition (1982) Sci-fi fantasy, with Henry Thomas. ★★★★

5.35 ITV News Central; Weather.

5.45 ITV News and Weather

6.00 The Queen's Garden Part two of two. Alan Titchmarsh discovers all manner of animal visitors to Buckingham Palace Garden in winter, and as spring arrives early, he learns about its role as a nursery.

7.00 Unbelievable Moments Caught on Camera Alastair Stewart presents extraordinary eyewitness footage filmed by members of the public, featuring fearsome storms, encounters with nature and dramatic rescues.

8.00 All Star Family Fortunes Christmas Special New series. Coronation Street's Nazirs, led by Jimi Mistry, and Emmerdale's Bartons, headed by Natalie J Robb, compete to win up to £30,000 for charity. Vernon Kay hosts.

9.00 All New It'll Be Alright on the Night Griff Rhys Jones presents a selection of TV bloopers, featuring Birds of a Feather, All Star Mr & Mrs, Come Dine with Me and EastEnders, plus Jack Whitehall putting his foot in it.

10.00 ITV News and Weather

10.15 Through the Christmas Keyhole Keith Lemon noses around the homes of mystery celebrities and challenges the panel – Jonathan Ross, Louis Walsh and Kym Marsh – to work out their identities.

11.15 Premiership Rugby Union The latest matches in English rugby's top-flight competition.

12.10 The Store 2.10 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA (R) **3.00 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA** (R) **3.45 ITV Nightscreen 5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show** (R)

CH4

Mark Jenkins features in a new series of The Hotel, shown at 8.00pm

6.10 NFL: The American Football Show (R) **7.10 Little Wolf's Book of Badness** Animated tale, with the voice of Michael Gambon. (R) **7.35 Ivor the Invisible** Children's animation. (R) **8.05 Everybody Loves Raymond** A snowstorm traps Ray and Debra. (R) **8.35 Frasier** Daphne turns to Niles for advice. (R) **9.00 Frasier** Part one of two. Daphne's engagement depresses Niles. (R) **9.30 Sunday Brunch** Comedienne Josie Long joins Tim Lovejoy and Simon Rimmer in the studio to talk about her latest stand-up tour. Plus, there is music by indie-rock band Bombay Bicycle Club. **12.25 FILM: Imagine That (2009)** Fantasy comedy, starring Eddie Murphy. ★★ **2.35 The Simpsons** (R)

3.00 The Simpsons Maggie goes missing. (R)

3.30 The Simpsons Homer and Grampa visit Ireland. (R)

3.55 The Simpsons Homer and Marge get married for a second time. (R)

4.25 The Simpsons Moe joins an online dating agency. (R)

4.55 Channel 4 News Including sport and weather.

5.00 Celebrity Fifteen to One Christmas Special Adam Hills hosts a festive edition of the quiz. (R)

6.00 The Golden Compass (2007) An orphan embarks on a perilous mission through a parallel universe to rescue her best friend. Fantasy adventure, starring Dakota Blue Richards and Daniel Craig. ★★★

8.00 The Hotel New series. Documentary following Mark Jenkins, two years after he was forced to sell his own hotel in Torquay as he takes on the new role of entertainments manager at the Cavendish.

9.00 Homeland Carrie and Saul are back in the US, where they investigate what she saw in Islamabad. CIA thriller, starring Claire Danes and Mandy Patinkin. Last in the series.

10.15 Gogglebox 2014 A chance to see some of the best moments from the past year of the reality show, featuring the nation's favourite armchair critics commenting on popular TV programmes. (R)

11.50 Rude Tube Christmas Cracker 2014 Alex Zane presents a selection of festive internet clips that have proved popular around the world, featuring a mashed-up Monty the penguin and Marian Carey with a beard. (R)

12.45 Father Ted (R) **1.10 American Football Live** Nat Coombs and Mike Carlson to present coverage of a match from the final week of the regular season. **4.55 NFL: Rush Zone 5.20 Secret Eaters** (R)

CH5

The second heat, World's Strongest Man 2014, shown at 7.00pm

6.00 Milkshake! 9.10 Access (R) **9.20 World's Strongest Man 2014** The opening heat from Los Angeles. (R) **10.20 Carry On Christmas** The gang's version of A Christmas Carol. (R) **11.25 Greatest Ever Carry On Films** A rundown of memorable moments from the comedy film series. (R) **12.25 FILM: Carry On Spying (1964)** Four bungling secret agents are sent on a mission to recover a stolen secret formula. Comedy, starring Kenneth Williams. (b/w) ★★★ **2.10 FILM: Black Beauty (1994)** A stallion recalls how events led to his ending up as a hackney-cab nag in Victorian England. Family drama, starring Sean Bean and David Thewlis. With the voice of Alan Cumming. ★★★

3.55 Out of Africa (1985) Fact-based romantic drama, starring Meryl Streep and Robert Redford. ★★★

7.00 World's Strongest Man 2014 Action from the second heat at the Commerce Casino in Los Angeles, where the top two were guaranteed a place in the Grand Final.

7.55 5 News Weekend Round-up of the day's headlines from around the world.

8.00 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away Enforcement agents are faced with the difficult job of evicting a woman with two children – a task that takes a turn for the worse when her ex-partner makes an appearance. (R)

9.00 Most Shocking Celebrity Moments 2014 Countdown of the biggest showbusiness stories and scandals of the year, from Solange Knowles attacking Jay Z in a lift to Russell Brand's attempt to start a revolution.

11.55 Autopsy: Michael Jackson's Last Hours Forensic pathologist Dr Richard Shepherd investigates the cases of celebrities who died unexpectedly, beginning with pop superstar Michael Jackson. (R)

12.55 SuperCasino Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. **3.10 World's Strongest Man 2014** Action from the opening heat at the Commerce Casino in Los Angeles, where the top two were guaranteed a place in the Grand Final. (R) **4.00 House Doctor** Ann Maurice shows homeowners near Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, how to inject a touch of character into their bland property to make it more appealing. (R) **4.25 Make It Big** Josh's surprise birthday cake gets locked in a drawer – and nobody can find the key. (R) **4.50 Make It Big** (R) **5.15 Angels of Jarm** (R) **5.20 Angels of Jarm** (R) **5.30 Angels of Jarm** (R) **5.40 Roary the Racing Car** (R) **5.50 Roary the Racing Car** (R)

Prime Time

Late View

Monday 29 December

Early View

BBC 1

The Carters are still reeling in EastEnders, shown at 8.00pm

6.00 Breakfast Round-up of national and international news, plus the latest from the money markets. **8.00 Match of the Day** Highlights of yesterday's games. (R) **9.30 FILM: Flushed Away (2006)** Animated comedy, featuring the voice of Hugh Jackman. ★★★ **10.50 FILM: Megamind (2010)** Animated superhero comedy, with the voice of Will Ferrell. ★★★ **12.15 Bargain Hunt 1.15 BBC News;** Weather. **1.30 BBC Regional News and Weather 1.40 FILM: Bedknobs and Broomsticks (1971)** An amateur witch befriends three children and whisks them away on a series of magical journeys. Disney part-animated musical fantasy, starring Angela Lansbury and David Tomlinson. ★★★

BBC 2

Dave Allen: God's Own Comedian, shown at 10.00pm

6.10 Sign Zone: Tom Kerridge's Best Ever Dishes (R) **6.40 The Football League Show** Highlights of the latest games in the Championship, League One and League Two. (R) **8.00 Orangutans: The Great Ape Escape – Natural World** An orangutan is released back into the wild after eight years in a rescue centre. (R) **9.00 Coast Australia** (R) **9.50 Celebrity Antiques Road Trip** (R) **10.50 Great Continental Railway Journeys** (R) **11.50 The Hairy Bikers' Asian Adventure** (R) **12.50 David Niven: Talking Pictures** A profile of actor David Niven. (R) **1.40 FILM: Around the World in 80 Days (1956)** Period adventure, starring David Niven. ★★★

ITV

Ben Fogle features in Countrywise, shown at 8.00pm

6.00 Dinner Date Darren from London hopes to find love. (R) **7.00 Good Morning Britain** News, current affairs and lifestyle features. **8.30 Lorraine 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show** Guests air their differences. **10.30 Judge Rinder** Real-life cases in a studio courtroom. (R) **11.30 Who's Doing the Dishes?** (R) **12.30 All Star Family Fortunes** With Gino D'Acampo and Michelle Keegan. (R) **1.15 ITV News and Weather 1.25 ITV News Central;** Weather. **1.30 Secret Dealers** The experts bid for a Sheffield silver inkwell. **2.30 Surprise Surprise Christmas Special** A 10-year-old girl visits the set of Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb. Last in the series. (R)

Ch4

Philip Glenister, Mini Cooper: For the Love of Cars, 8.00pm

6.15 Kirstie's Handmade Treasures (R) **6.30 How I Met Your Mother** (R) **6.55 How I Met Your Mother** (R) **7.20 Everybody Loves Raymond** (R) **7.45 Everybody Loves Raymond** (R) **8.10 Frasier** (R) **8.40 Frasier** (R) **9.10 The Big Bang Theory** (R) **9.40 The Big Bang Theory** (R) **10.05 The Big Bang Theory** (R) **10.30 The Simpsons** (R) **11.00 The Simpsons** (R) **11.30 The Simpsons** (R) **12.00 FILM: Hachi: A Dog's Tale (2009)** Premiere. Fact-based family drama, starring Richard Gere. ★★★ **1.50 Deal or No Deal: Merry Christmas** Noel Edmonds presents a festive edition of the game show. **2.50 FILM: Brewster's Millions (1985)** Comedy, starring Richard Pryor and John Candy. ★★★

Ch5

Paul and Steve call for help, Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away, 7.00pm

6.00 Milkshake! 10.00 World's Strongest Man 2014 Action from the second heat at the Commerce Casino in Los Angeles, where the top two were guaranteed a place in the Grand Final. (R) **11.00 FILM: Carry On Sergeant (1958)** A military sergeant on the brink of retirement tries to whip a band of useless recruits into shape. The first in the comedy series, starring William Hartnell and Bob Monkhouse. (b/w) ★★★ **12.50 FILM: The Glenn Miller Story (1954)** Musical biopic of the bandleader and trombonist, depicting his triumphs both on and off the stage before his mysterious disappearance in 1944. With James Stewart and June Allyson. ★★★

Prime Time

3.35 Wallace & Gromit: A Close Shave The animated characters get mixed up in sheep rustling. (R)

4.05 Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom (1984) Action adventure, starring Harrison Ford. ★★★

5.55 BBC News; Weather.

6.10 Midlands Today; Weather.

6.20 The Muppets (2011) Premiere. Three fans try to reunite the members of the famous puppet variety show for one last performance in a bid to save their theatre. Comedy, with Jason Segel and Amy Adams. ★★★

8.00 EastEnders The Carters are still reeling from the revelations that ruined their Christmas Day, Ronnie realises Dot and Charlie have been manipulated and Dexter offends Nancy.

8.30 Miranda The hit sitcom returns for the final two episodes, which pick up where the last one left off, with Miranda deciding whether to accept Gary or Mike's proposal. (R)

9.05 Mapp and Lucia New series. Period comedy about the social rivalry between two women in a small town after one rents the other's home for the summer. Miranda Richardson and Anna Chancellor star. Continues tomorrow.

10.05 BBC News

10.20 BBC Regional News and Weather

10.30 Darcey Bussell's Looking for Audrey Strictly judge and former Royal Ballet star Darcey Bussell explores the work and private life of Audrey Hepburn.

11.35 Sport Relief: The Final Score A look back at the 2014 charity event, which featured an Only Fools and Horses special. (R)

12.35 FILM: Eurotrip (2004) Comedy, starring Scott Mechlowicz. ★★★ **2.05 Weather for the Week Ahead 2.10 BBC News**

4.30 Big Dreams Small Spaces Monty Don helps create gardens for people with little space. (R)

5.30 Wild Brazil Documentary following the lives of families of capuchin monkeys, giant otters and coatis. (R)

6.30 Nature's Weirdest Events Chris Packham investigates peculiar natural events, including dogs commuting on the Moscow metro and sharks living in a lake at a golf course in Australia. (R)

7.30 Operation Grand Canyon with Dan Snow The historian and his team conclude their re-creation of the pioneering 280-mile expedition through the natural wonder that was led by explorer John Wesley Powell in 1869. (R)

8.30 Christmas University Challenge Distinguished graduates of the universities of York and Surrey compete, with broadcaster Adam Hart-Davis and physicist Jim Al-Khalili among the contestants.

9.00 Snow Wolf Family and Me Part one of two. Wildlife cameraman Gordon Buchanan explores the lives and habits of Arctic wolves, revealing the secrets of one of the world's most feared predators.

10.00 Dave Allen: God's Own Comedian A look at the life, career and legacy of the Irish comedy writer and performer, featuring interviews with family and friends and rare archive material. (R)

11.00 The Wrong Mans Another case of mistaken identity finds Sam and Phil in danger again and their only hope is to play their parts in a heist. (R)

12.00 FILM: Notorious (1946) Alfred Hitchcock's thriller, starring Cary Grant. (b/w) ★★★★ **1.40 Sign Zone: The Apprentice** (R) **3.40 Sign Zone: The Mekong River with Sue Perkins** (R) **4.40 This Is BBC Two**

3.30 Dr No (1962) James Bond spy thriller, starring Sean Connery. ★★★★

5.35 The Chase Quiz show, hosted by Bradley Walsh. (R)

6.30 ITV News Central; Weather.

6.45 ITV News and Weather

7.00 Emmerdale Charity sows the seeds of doubt with Megan, implying that Jai is still bad news, while Nicola is rushed to hospital from Bernice's party and Katie offers Belle emotional support.

7.30 Coronation Street Andrea is horrified to find out the Street Cars account is £10,000 overdrawn, Gary tells the police Roy struck him only once and Nick treats Erica to a Spanish lunch in the bistro.

8.00 Countrywise Liz Bonnin visits a wildlife rescue centre, Paul Heiney turns rambling guide in the Lakes and Ben Fogle finds out how ex-soldiers benefit from the countryside. Last in the series.

8.30 Coronation Street Steve tells Eileen and Andrea the bank has made a mistake about the Street Cars account, while Roy admits to Anna that he hit Gary repeatedly with the cricket bat.

9.00 Christmas Epic Fails Angus Deayton celebrates the funny side of Christmas, featuring everything from cringeworthy gifts and festive fads to cheesy songs, unsettling Santas and TV bloopers.

10.00 ITV News at Ten and Weather

10.15 Atonement (2007) A girl accuses her sister's lover of a crime he did not commit, unaware her actions will have tragic repercussions. Romantic period drama, starring Keira Knightley and James McAvoy. ★★★★

12.25 Jackpot247 3.00 ITV Nightscreen 5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show (R)

4.50 Channel 4 News Including sport and weather.

5.30 Hollyoaks Peri takes drastic action when Nancy confronts her.

6.00 The Italian Job (1969) A crook recruits a gang to steal $4million in gold bullion and make a quick getaway from central Turin in a fleet of Minis. Crime comedy, starring Michael Caine and Noel Coward. ★★★★

8.00 Mini Cooper: For the Love of Cars Ant Anstead restores a Mini Cooper Mk1 rescued from a barn in Dublin, while Philip Glenister meets Formula 1 legend Stirling Moss, who takes one for a spin. (R)

9.00 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown Christmas Special Jimmy Carr hosts the comedy panel show's version of the words-and-numbers quiz, with team captains Sean Lock and Jon Richardson joined by guests David Mitchell and Kathy Burke.

10.00 The Big Fat Quiz of the Year 2014 Richard Ayoade, David Mitchell, Mel B, Micky Flanagan, Sarah Millican and Kevin Bridges battle it out to see who knows the most about the past 12 months. Jimmy Carr hosts. (R)

12.00 NFL: The American Football Show Vernon Kay presents highlights from the 17th and final week of the regular season. **1.00 FILM: The Omen (1976)** A series of unusual deaths alerts an American diplomat to the possibility that the child he secretly adopted is the son of the Devil. Horror, starring Gregory Peck. ★★★ **2.55 FILM: Flight of the Phoenix (2004)** A plane crashes in the desert and the survivors plan to return to civilisation by building a new aircraft from the wreckage. Adventure, starring Dennis Quaid. ★★★ **4.45 Kirstie's Handmade Treasures 5.05 Small Animal Hospital** (R) **5.30 FILM: The Parent Trap (1961)** Twin sisters who want their estranged parents to get back together swap places in a ploy to reunite them. Disney comedy, with Hayley Mills. ★★★

3.05 The Dam Busters (1954) Fact-based Second World War drama, starring Michael Redgrave. (b/w) ★★★★

5.35 What the Dambusters Did Next Missions undertaken by 617 Squadron after the May 1943 raids on the Ruhr and Eder valleys. (R)

7.00 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away Paul and Steve call for urgent police back-up after opening a locked wooden case they find while carrying out an eviction notice at a flat in London's Docklands; (R) 5 News Update

8.00 World's Strongest Man 2014 Action from the third heat at the Commerce Casino in Los Angeles, where British contender Eddie Hall was expected to book his place in the Grand Final; 5 News at 9

9.00 The Rock (1996) An FBI chemical weapons expert and a jailed SAS veteran must break into Alcatraz to bring down a renegade general and his men. Action thriller, with Sean Connery and Nicolas Cage. Edited for language. Includes 5 News Update. ★★★

11.50 Reservoir Dogs (1992) A failed robbery ends in a bloodbath, and as the criminals lie low they try to work out whether someone betrayed them. Quentin Tarantino's thriller, with Harvey Keitel and Tim Roth. ★★★★

1.50 SuperCasino Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. **4.00 Great Scientists** Profile of 16th-century Italian astronomer Galileo Galilei, famous for defending the Copernican thesis that Earth orbited the sun instead of vice versa. (R) **4.25 House Doctor** Ann Maurice offers advice to a couple in Beckenham, Kent, whose 1930s-style house has been on the market for more than 14 months. (R) **4.50 House Doctor** (R) **5.15 Wildlife SOS** (R) **5.35 Wildlife SOS** (R)

Late View

FESTIVE TUNES

Soundtrack to Christmas

FESTIVE TUNES ARE THE SOUNDTRACK TO CHRISTMAS. SHEREEN LOW TAKES A LISTEN TO SOME OF THE NEWEST CHRISTMAS COMPILATIONS

VARIOUS – WHITE CHRISTMAS

There's something for everyone in this bumper collection of festive songs. From the new (Michael Buble's Cold December Night, Lily Allen's take on Keane's hit for John Lewis' Christmas ad Somewhere Only We Know and Coldplay's Christmas Lights) to the classic (Bing Crosby and David Bowie's duet Peace On Earth/Little Drummer Boy, Al Green's I'll Be Home For Christmas, Tony Bennett's Winter Wonderland and Chris Rea's Driving Home For Christmas), and the wacky (Wizzard's I Wish It Could Be Christmas Everyday, Alma Cogan's Never Do A Tango With An Eskimo and Enya's We Wish You A Merry Christmas come to mind), this could almost be the ultimate Christmas album. The only issue is, it's missing the much-loved likes of Mariah Carey's All I Want For Christmas Is You, Boney M's Mary's Boy Child and Nat King Cole's The Christmas Song. Still, it's refreshing to have a different tracklist - and there's no Band Aid in sight.

Rating: 9/10

VARIOUS – CHRISTMAS AT DOWNTON ABBEY

For fans of the hit TV show, this is an absolute festive must-have. The 45-track double-LP Christmas At Downton Abbey features hymns, carols and seasonal tracks by actors Julian Ovenden (Charles Blake), Elizabeth McGovern (Cora, Countess of Grantham) and Jim Carter (Mr Carson). While McGovern is no stranger to singing (she's already released a record as frontwoman of folk-country group Sadie And The Hotheads), it is arguably Jim Carter who is the star of the two CDs, when he closes the first disc with a read of Clement Clarke Moore's 'Twas The Night Before Christmas. Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, who made a guest appearance on the ITV series, also contributes, as does the Choir of Kings College, while the show's theme tune has been adapted as a two-part festive number, performed by the Budapest City Orchestra. Just as the show's special has become something of a December tradition, this is the perfect collection to form the back-track to your family festivities. It's basically Christmas in a CD form.

Rating: 8/10

VARIOUS – AN AMERICANA CHRISTMAS

And so begins the onslaught of Christmas compilation albums. While most deal in the domestic Yuletide offerings of well-known crooners or ironic heavy metal parodies, An Americana Christmas manages to theme this collection while still observing a level of sincerity. Various generations of folk and country are spread across 16 tracks, with six exclusive new recordings to entice Americana patriots who already own it all. Robert Ellis' cover of Pretty Paper is fairly by-numbers though Nikki Lane's sassy Falalaalove Ya, an original recording, is lighthearted, hook laden and a highlight of this collection. Meanwhile, the legendary artists have offered some of their festive staples, such as Christmas Must Be Tonight by The Band, The Gifts They Gave, lifted from Johnny Cash's 1963 Christmas record, and Emmylou Harris' 1979 version of The First Noel. It's perhaps no surprise that a serving from Bob Dylan's Christmas album appears here, though Must Be Santa seems an arbitrary choice, especially as the original Brave Combo original packs more punch. Occasionally, the transition from a festive Country tearjerker or sluggish traditional number can jar against the livelier numbers. All that said, for the most part, An Americana Christmas's heart is in the right place.

Rating: 7/10

IDINA MENZEL – CHRISTMAS WISHES

After having a hit with Frozen tune Let It Go, probably the biggest song of the last 12 months, Idina Menzel steps in from the cold to bring us this collection of festive tracks. There are much-loved classics here such as Mariah Carey's All I Want For Christmas Is You, a duet with Michael Buble, Baby It's Cold Outside, and also December Prayer, a beautiful new song co-written by Menzel. The atmosphere is warm and sentimental with lush strings and of course, Menzel's incredible voice. There are many covers of Silent Night and White Christmas out there, but the star of screen and stage puts her own accent on these songs making them dreamlike.

Rating: 8/10

What makes stars sparkle

EVER WONDERED WHETHER THE CELEBS LOVE CRIMBO AS MUCH AS THE REST OF US? HERE, FAMOUS FOLK REVEAL WHAT GETS THEM IN THE FESTIVE MOOD

Frank Skinner, comedian and TV presenter:

"I know it's a cliche, but once you have a kid, Christmas wakes up again and becomes proper. I haven't really enjoyed Christmas that much since I stopped drinking [in 1986] but now it's really become an exciting thing to do again. I was never much of a fan really, but my girlfriend is obsessed with it. She's not a person who complains about there being Christmas stuff in Sainsbury's in October. She's already watching the Christmas film channel and has been for weeks , so it's quite a big deal in our house."

Presenter Frank Skinner

Elijah Wood, Hollywood actor:

"Once Halloween hits, it's like a fast track to Christmas. I'm a big Christmas music fan. I find that gets me in the spirit. Seeing fairy lights everywhere and Christmas trees and decorations. You get less of that feeling in Los Angeles, because it can be quite warm on Christmas Day. So I really get in the spirit when I come to London or go to New York. Everyone's bundled up and it's all fireplaces and mulled wine and things that evoke the holiday season."

Rafe Spall, actor:

"I'm in the Black Mirror Christmas special on Channel 4 and I've got a Christmas movie coming out [Get Santa], so going to see myself in the cinema makes me feel really Christmassy! No, The Pogues and Kirsty MacColl's Fairytale Of New York remains the best Christmas song of all time; whenever you hear that, you feel the appropriate feeling of warmth, joy, sentimentality, tears and everything that you feel around Christmas."

Steph McGovern, BBC Breakfast presenter:

Katie Hopkins

"The best thing is having a drink with my dad on Christmas Eve, and then him dropping me in town and seeing my friends who live all over the country but all come back for Christmas. And also listening to the Chris Rea song Driving Home For Christmas as my dad is driving me home for Christmas, as he often comes and picks me up. And because Chris Rea's from Middlesbrough, where I'm from, he's literally singing about going home. Oh, and I've already bought my Christmas jumper. It's outrageous and horrible."

Tim Wonnacott, Bargain Hunt host:

"The moment the Christmas cards are sent, I feel Christmassy. I'm very keen on Christmas cards, I send a lot and I like receiving them. I like to go home, and there is a pile of 20 or 30 cards to open – generally speaking from people you haven't seen for years. Those cards get put out about the house and I start feeling Christmassy. Then I go out and gather ivy and holly and make swags."

James Marsden, actor:

"We make this drink called Wassail. It's like a cider and you put cinnamon sticks in it, and cloves and oranges and Captain Morgan spiced rum. Put that on the stove, let it simmer and it fills the house with this great smell. That always gets me in the mood, because it's a nice shift from Thanksgiving into the Christmas holidays. It's a pot of goodness boiling together and filling up the air."

Jamie Theakston, TV and radio presenter:

"My kids tend to get excited about Christmas from the beginning of November onwards. They're driven by commercialism, I think! So, as soon as the ads start and they see the Coca-Cola and John Lewis ads, by then they've worked themselves up into a frenzy. Last year, we went to a chalet in Chamonix that was under about 3ft of snow, so it was the perfect Christmas. I don't know how we're going to match that this year."

Actor Rafe Spall

James Martin, TV chef:

"I think it's the weather. That first bit of snow we all dream about. I like snow, there's something magical about it. So snow and Christmassy food give me the festive spirit."

Laura Whitmore, presenter:

"I get in the Christmas spirit when I'm in the coffee shops that have all the cinnamon, hazelnut and gingerbread lattes with the long names. You feel like such an idiot saying; 'I'll have a single espresso double skinny latte with...!'"

Katie Hopkins, former apprentice contestant: "Christmas appeals to my inner child. We have early Christmas so that we get two Christmas Days, just because I like to have quite a lot of Christmas going on. So I had a Christmas Day in November with all my family. I think a lot of people dread Christmas, but for me it's just a really fun time of year. The whole decorating the outside of your house? Not so much for me."

Tuesday 30 December

BBC 1

Miranda Richardson heads the cast of Mapp and Lucia, 9.00pm

Early View

6.00 Breakfast Round-up of national and international news, plus the latest from the money markets. **9.00 FILM: Shark Tale (2004)** Animated comedy, with the voice of Will Smith. ★★ **10.25 FILM: Hotel for Dogs (2009)** An orphaned brother and sister in foster care transform an abandoned hotel into luxury accommodation for stray dogs. Family comedy, with Emma Roberts. ★★★ **12.00 Bargain Hunt** Two wild swimmers go up against a pair of lifeguards in Builth Wells. **1.00 BBC News 1.15 BBC Regional News;** Weather. **1.25 Father Brown** Fifties-set crime drama, starring Mark Williams. (R) **2.10 FILM: George of the Jungle (1997)** Comedy, starring Brendan Fraser. ★★★

Prime Time

3.35 Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade (1989) The intrepid archaeologist sets out to find his father, who has gone missing while searching for the Holy Grail. Action adventure sequel, starring Harrison Ford and Sean Connery. ★★★★

5.35 BBC News

5.50 Midlands Today; Weather.

6.05 Madagascar 3: Europe's Most Wanted (2012) Premiere. The escaped zoo animals try to get back to New York by joining a circus travelling across Europe. Animated comedy sequel, with the voices of Ben Stiller and Chris Rock. ★★★

7.30 EastEnders Ronnie puts her plan into action, there is a familiar face back in Albert Square as Kim Fox returns and Emma continues to grow suspicious of her friends and neighbours.

8.00 Holby City Dominic gets trapped in a lift with a face from the past, Mo searches for a date after learning Adele is taking Jesse to a family wedding and Harry helps Raf enjoy New Year.

9.00 Mapp and Lucia Mapp is still reeling from Lucia's victory at the summer fete, so when the summer art exhibition approaches, she tries to prohibit her rival's entry. Concludes tomorrow.

10.00 BBC News

10.15 BBC Regional News; Weather; National Lottery Update

10.25 Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End (2007) Fantasy adventure sequel, with Johnny Depp, Geoffrey Rush, Orlando Bloom and Keira Knightley. ★★★

Late View

1.00 FILM: The Hand That Rocks the Cradle (1992) Thriller, with Rebecca De Mornay and Annabella Sciorra. ★★★ **2.45 Weather for the Week Ahead 2.50 BBC News**

BBC 2

Jeremy Paxman hosts Christmas University Challenge, 7.30pm

6.15 Sign Zone: Secrets of the Castle with Ruth, Peter and Tom A project to build a medieval castle from scratch. (R) **7.15 FILM: When Dinosaurs Ruled the Earth (1970)** Prehistoric adventure, starring Victoria Vetri. ★★ **8.50 Coast Australia** (R) **9.40 Celebrity Antiques Road Trip** Cold Feet co-stars Hermione Norris and John Thomson compete. (R) **10.40 Great Continental Railway Journeys** Michael Portillo travels through Israel and Palestine. (R) **11.40 The Hairy Bikers' Asian Adventure** (R) **12.40 Robert Redford: Talking Pictures** An insight into the life of the actor. (R) **1.20 FILM: The Horse Whisperer (1998)** Drama, starring Robert Redford. ★★★

4.00 Big Dreams Small Spaces A widow wants to create a cottage-style garden in Swindon. (R)

5.00 Wild Brazil The giant otter cubs must learn to swim before their river floods. (R)

6.00 Flog It! The team visits Bognor Regis, West Sussex, where finds include a diamond ring with an interesting history and a glass vase with a big name. (R)

6.30 Nature's Weirdest Events Chris Packham investigates reports of fish "walking" out of the water in Florida, bees in France that are making multicoloured honey, and trees oozing a blood-red liquid. (R)

7.30 Christmas University Challenge The last of the first-round matches sees Manchester Metropolitan University take on Goldsmiths, University of London, with Bernard Hill and Neil Innes among the contestants.

8.00 Sacred Wonders of Britain Neil Oliver investigates the hallowed sites of ancient Britain, looking at how people expressed their religious beliefs by reshaping the landscape. (R)

9.00 Snow Wolf Family and Me Part two of two. Gordon Buchanan returns to the Canadian Arctic in autumn and follows the wolves as they hunt lemmings, musk oxen and hares, and encounter a rival pack.

10.00 Charlie Brooker's 2014 Wipe A satirical look back at the events of the past 12 months, including the ice-bucket challenge craze and Chris Martin and Gwyneth Paltrow's "conscious uncoupling".

11.00 Dave Allen: The Immaculate Selection

12.00 Backchat with Jack Whitehall and His Dad 12.45 FILM: Spellbound (1945) (b/w) ★★★ **2.35 Sign Zone: World's Greatest Food Markets** (R) **3.35 Sign Zone: Doctor Who** (R) **4.35 This Is BBC Two**

ITV

More adventure in Wilderness Walks with Ray Mears, on at 7.30pm

6.00 Dinner Date (R) **7.00 Good Morning Britain** Actress Honeysuckle Weeks chats about the forthcoming new series of Foyle's War. Plus, a round-up of the day's news, as well as health, entertainment and lifestyle features. **8.30 Lorraine 9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show 10.30 Judge Rinder** Real-life cases in a studio courtroom. (R) **11.30 Who's Doing the Dishes?** Tina Malone hosts a dinner party at her home. (R) **12.25 All Star Family Fortunes** With Andrew Castle and Tina Hobley. (R) **1.10 ITV News and Weather 1.15 ITV News Central;** Weather. **1.20 Secret Dealers** (R) **2.20 The Queen's Garden** Part one of two. Exploring Buckingham Palace Garden. (R)

3.20 From Russia with Love (1963) James Bond thriller, starring Sean Connery. ★★★

5.35 The Chase Quiz show, hosted by Bradley Walsh. (R)

6.30 ITV News Central; Weather.

6.40 ITV News and Weather

7.00 Emmerdale Nicola finds the courage to tell Jimmy her news, before dropping another bombshell on him. Belle asks Lachlan for more pills and Jai thinks Megan does not trust him.

7.30 Wilderness Walks with Ray Mears The bushcraft expert heads to the Isle of Skye off Scotland's west coast in search of Britain's rarest bird of prey, the white-tailed eagle. Last in the series.

8.00 Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2 (2011) The young wizard and his friends face their final battle with the forces of the dark lord Voldemort. Conclusion of the fantasy saga, starring Daniel Radcliffe and Ralph Fiennes. ★★★★

10.30 ITV News and Weather

10.45 Birds of a Feather The hit sitcom begins its second series on ITV with a Christmas special. Dorien splashes out on a trip to the Canary Islands, taking Sharon and Tracey with her. (R)

11.15 American Gangster (2007) Fact-based crime drama about 1970s drug kingpin Frank Lucas and the cop who tried to bring him down in the face of police corruption. Starring Denzel Washington and Russell Crowe. ★★★

1.55 Jackpot247 3.00 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA The host takes his successful talk show stateside, where he invites American guests to air their differences. (R) **3.40 ITV Nightscreen** Text-based information service. **5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show** The host invites guests to air their differences in front of a studio audience. (R)

CH4

The illusionist performs in David Blaine: Real or Magic, on at 9.00pm

7.45 FILM: Freaky Friday (1976) Disney fantasy comedy, starring Jodie Foster. ★★★ **9.30 The Big Bang Theory** (R) **10.00 The Big Bang Theory** (R) **10.25 The Big Bang Theory** (R) **10.55 FILM: Space Chimps 2: Zartog Strikes Back (2010)** ★★ **12.30 The Simpsons** Marge and Lisa discuss examples of strong women. (R) **1.00 The Simpsons** Norwegian immigrants look for work in Springfield. (R) **1.25 The Simpsons** Bart becomes a daredevil skateboarder. (R) **1.55 The Simpsons** Marge protests about TV violence. (R) **2.25 Deal or No Deal: Merry Christmas** Noel Edmonds presents a festive edition of the game show.

3.25 The Parent Trap (1998) Comedy remake, starring Lindsay Lohan. ★★★

6.00 The Simpsons Homer discovers his long-lost mother was a free-spirited hippie and decides to follow in her footsteps, throwing off the shackles of conformity and becoming a drop-out. (R)

6.30 Hollyoaks Sandy is back in the village and learns that Freddie is suspected of murder, while Lindsey and Freddie learn of DS Thorpe's plan, and Robbie breaks up with Phoebe.

7.00 Channel 4 News

7.05 Come Dine with Me Christmas Special Helen Flanagan, Kirsten O'Brien, Mark Dolan and Shaun Ryder serve up a sparkly dining party, a Scandinavian-style bash, a Dickensian Christmas and a "festive rave-up".

8.00 Phil Spencer: Secret Agent New series. The property expert visits Hereford and Gloucester, helping a recently separated pair sell their home, and meeting a couple who need more space for their growing family.

9.00 David Blaine: Real or Magic The illusionist performs mind-boggling tricks for a host of celebrities, including Katy Perry, Will Smith, Kanye West, Jamie Foxx, Ricky Gervais and Stephen Hawking. (R)

10.20 The Look of Love (2013) Premiere. Fact-based drama about Paul Raymond, who became one of Britain's wealthiest men through an empire of strip clubs and pornography. Starring Steve Coogan and Anna Friel. ★★★

12.20 FILM: Damien: Omen II (1978) Horror sequel, starring William Holden. ★★★ **2.10 FILM: If (1968)** Satirical drama, with Malcolm McDowell. ★★★★ **4.05 Phil Spencer: Secret Agent** (R) **5.00 Secret Eaters** (R) **5.55 Small Animal Hospital** (R)

CH5

The fourth heat, World's Strongest Man 2014, shown at 8.00pm

6.00 Milkshake! 9.35 World's Strongest Man 2014 The third heat from Los Angeles. (R) **10.35 The Dog Rescuers with Alan Davies: Christmas Special** The comedian throws a party for some of the stars of the last series. (R) **11.35 FILM: Fun in Acapulco (1963)** A lifeguard at a luxury Mexican hotel ends up in a romantic triangle with his beautiful boss and a female matador. Musical comedy, starring Elvis Presley and Ursula Andress. Part of Elvis Day. ★★★ **1.35 FILM: Close Encounters of the Third Kind: The Director's Cut (1977)** A man who becomes obsessed by UFOs is drawn to the place where aliens plan to make contact. Alternate cut of Steven Spielberg's sci-fi drama, with Richard Dreyfuss. ★★★★

4.15 Chitty Chitty Bang Bang (1968) Children's musical adventure, starring Dick Van Dyke. ★★★

7.00 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away High Court enforcement officers Paul, Steve and Ben make a shocking discovery when they break into a home while serving an eviction notice on a single mother and her two children; (R) 5 News Update

8.00 World's Strongest Man 2014 Action from the fourth and penultimate heat at the Commerce Casino in Los Angeles, which featured three-time champion Zydrunas Savickas; 5 News at 9

9.00 Elvis by the Presleys Tribute to Elvis Presley, featuring candid interviews with his ex-wife Priscilla and their daughter Lisa Marie, plus photographs and home movies from the family archives. Part of Elvis Day. (R)

11.00 Elvis: '68 Comeback Special Classic TV show from 1968, including Heartbreak Hotel, Hound Dog, All Shook Up, Jailhouse Rock, Don't Be Cruel, Love Me Tender, Can't Help Falling In Love and Gospel Medley. Part of Elvis Day. (R)

12.00 The Last Hours of Elvis Presley Forensic pathologist Dr Richard Shepherd re-examines the medical evidence relating to the death of the American singer, who died in August 1977 at the age of 42. Part of Elvis Day. (R) **1.00 SuperCasino** Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. **3.10 World's Strongest Man 2014** Action from the third heat at the Commerce Casino in Los Angeles, where British contender Eddie Hall was expected to book his place in the Grand Final. (R) **4.00 Nick's Quest** Nick Baker searches for an anaconda. (R) **4.20 House Doctor** A Victorian villa in Garelochhead, Argyll and Bute. (R) **4.45 House Doctor** (R) **5.10 House Doctor**(R) **5.35 Wildlife SOS** (R)

New Year's Eve

BBC 1

Queen + Adam Lambert Rock Big Ben Live, shown at 11.15pm

6.00 Breakfast Round-up of national and international news, plus the latest from the money markets. **9.00 FILM: The Cat in the Hat (2003)** Comedy fantasy, starring Mike Myers. ★★ **10.15 FILM: Eight Below (2006)** A blizzard forces an Antarctic guide to abandon his huskies, which must now rely on their pack instinct to survive. Disney adventure, starring Paul Walker and Bruce Greenwood. ★★★ **12.05 Bargain Hunt** (R) **12.50 BBC News 1.00 BBC Regional News;** Weather. **1.10 FILM: Ratatouille (2007)** Pixar animated comedy, with the voice of Patton Oswalt. ★★★★ **2.50 FILM: Monsters vs Aliens (2009)** Animated sci-fi comedy, with the voice of Reese Witherspoon. ★★★

BBC 2

Mock the Week New Year's Eve Special, shown at 10.50pm

6.10 Sign Zone: Secrets of the Castle with Ruth, Peter and Tom The team explores the construction of a castle's defences. (R) **7.10 Natural World: Empire of the Desert Ants** (R) **8.10 FILM: Saboteur (1942)** Alfred Hitchcock's thriller, starring Robert Cummings. (b/w) ★★★ **9.55 Alfred Hitchcock: Talking Pictures** (R) **10.35 FILM: Shadow of a Doubt (1943)** Alfred Hitchcock's thriller, starring Joseph Cotten. (b/w) ★★★★ **12.20 The Hairy Bikers' Asian Adventure** Dave Myers and Si King are entertained by a geisha in Kyoto. (R) **1.20 FILM: Becoming Jane (2006)** Romantic period drama, starring Anne Hathaway and James McAvoy. ★★★

ITV

Tommy Cooper: Not Like That, Like This, shown at 10.00pm

6.00 Dinner Date Joel from Manchester picks three blind dates. (R) **7.00 Good Morning Britain** Sir David Attenborough chats to Kate Garraway about his new documentary series Conquest of the Skies. **8.30 Lorraine** Entertainment and fashion news. **9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show** Guests air their differences. (R) **10.30 Judge Rinder** Real-life cases in a studio courtroom. (R) **11.30 Who's Doing the Dishes?** Footballer Wes Brown plays host. (R) **12.25 All Star Family Fortunes** With Rav Wilding and Blythe Duff. (R) **1.10 ITV News and Weather 1.20 Secret Dealers** Items include a "grotesque" fish vase and a diamond cluster ring. (R) **2.20 The Queen's Garden** (R)

Ch4

The success of Disney's film, Frozen at Christmas, on at 8.00pm

6.20 How I Met Your Mother (R) **6.40 How I Met Your Mother** Britney Spears guest stars. (R) **7.05 Everybody Loves Raymond** (R) **7.30 FILM: The Valley of Gwangi (1969)** Fantasy Western, starring James Franciscus. ★★ **9.20 FILM: The Brady Bunch Movie (1995)** Comedy based on the 1970s sitcom, starring Shelley Long. ★★★ **11.00 The Big Bang Theory** (R) **11.25 The Simpsons** Bart is knocked down by Mr Burns' car. (R) **11.55 The Simpsons** Homer fears he has only 24 hours to live. (R) **12.25 FILM: Five Children and It (2004)** Children's fantasy, with Kenneth Branagh. ★★ **2.15 FILM: Home Alone 3 (1997)** Comedy sequel, starring Alex D Linz. ★★★

Ch5

The success of the Swedish group, The Abba Years, 12.00am

6.00 Milkshake! 10.10 World's Strongest Man 2014 Action from the fourth and penultimate heat at the Commerce Casino in Los Angeles, which featured three-time champion Zydrunas Savickas. (R) **11.10 FILM: Carry On Regardless (1961)** Seven bungling handymen have to prove they can hold down a job when their landlord tries to evict them. Slapstick comedy, starring Sid James, Charles Hawtrey and Kenneth Williams. (b/w) ★★ **1.00 FILM: The Vikings (1958)** A Norse warrior fights to claim the Northumbrian throne, unaware his rival for the crown is really his half-brother. Adventure, with Kirk Douglas, Tony Curtis and Janet Leigh. ★★★★

Early View

4.15 Top of the Pops New Year's Eve Fearne Cotton and Reggie Yates review the year in music.

5.20 Pointless Celebrities A star-studded version of the unorthodox general knowledge quiz. (R)

6.05 BBC News

6.20 Midlands Today; Weather.

6.35 Celebrity Mastermind Steve Pemberton, Harry Shearer, Kate Thornton and Tony Law answer questions on subjects including the Coen brothers' films, George Michael and Second World War fighter aircraft.

7.05 Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull (2008) The globe-trotting archaeologist races against Soviet agents to find a mysterious artefact of untold power. Action adventure sequel, starring Harrison Ford and Cate Blanchett. ★★★

9.00 Mapp and Lucia Miss Lucia introduces a series of musical evenings, although Mapp notices the locals are tiring of her bossy ways and is keen to encourage a revolt. Last in the series.

10.00 BBC News; Weather; National Lottery Update

10.15 The Graham Norton Show Graham invites another line-up of A-list guests to huddle up on the sofa and help him welcome in the new year.

11.15 Queen + Adam Lambert Rock Big Ben Live Brian May and Roger Taylor join forces with Adam Lambert at the Central Hall in London's Westminster, bringing in the new year with a concert of Queen's greatest hits.

11.55 New Year's Eve Fireworks

12.10 Queen + Adam Lambert Rock Big Ben Live 12.30 Mrs Brown's Boys New Year Special (R) **1.10 John Bishop Live: Elvis Has Left the Building** (R) **2.20 FILM: Old School (2003)** ★★★ **3.50 Weather for the Week Ahead 3.55 BBC News**

Prime Time

3.10 Coast Australia (R)

4.00 Big Dreams Small Spaces Horticulturalist Monty Don helps amateur gardeners on the south coast of England and in Snowdonia who are battling the elements as they attempt to create idyllic outdoor spaces. (R)

5.00 Wild Brazil The animals look for breeding partners. Last in the series. (R)

6.00 Flog It! Catherine Southon and Mark Stacey locate interesting items at St Petroc's Church in Bodmin, Cornwall. (R)

7.00 Tigers About the House – What Happened Next First of a two-part programme catching up with zookeeper Giles Clark and the Sumatran tiger cubs he was hand-rearing in his home in the suburbs of Queensland.

8.00 Christmas University Challenge Two teams of distinguished graduates compete on behalf of their former universities in the first semi-final of the academic quiz's festive series. Jeremy Paxman hosts.

8.30 The Help (2011) Premiere. An aspiring journalist in 1960s Mississippi creates controversy by giving black servants the chance to tell their stories. Drama, starring Emma Stone and Viola Davis. ★★★

10.50 Mock the Week New Year's Eve Special A selection of out-takes, quizzes and favourite clips. Last in the series.

11.20 Jools' Annual Hootenanny 2014 With Ronnie Spector, Ed Sheeran, Boz Scaggs, Paolo Nutini, Ellie Goulding, William Bell, Paloma Faith, Wilko Johnson, Joss Stone, Clean Bandit with Jess Glynne and Hayseed Dixie.

1.35 Glastonbury 2014 Highlights A selection of performances from the festival at Worthy Farm in Somerset. **3.40 This Is BBC Two**

3.25 Goldfinger (1964) James Bond adventure, starring Sean Connery. ★★★★

5.35 The Chase Quiz show, hosted by Bradley Walsh. (R)

6.30 ITV News Central; Weather.

6.45 ITV News and Weather

7.00 Emmerdale Samson finds one of Belle's pills and tells Zak and Lisa, Jimmy worries about Nicola when she heads straight back to work and Robert feels torn between Chrissie and Aaron.

7.30 Coronation Street Liz tells Steve he can borrow from the Rovers' account to pay his staff, David lets Michael move into No 8 after he is evicted and Gary apologises to Roy for breaking into the cafe.

8.00 Rita & Me Fifty years after Barbara Knox's first appearance on Coronation Street, this programme looks back on her character Rita's greatest moments on the cobbles.

9.00 A Funny Old Year 2014 Jason Manford presents this end-of-year comedy review show – a humorous celebration of the highs and lows of the past 12 months, from the brilliant to the infuriating.

10.00 Tommy Cooper: Not Like That, Like This Biopic of the hugely popular comedian, who was in love with two women and unable to choose between them. Starring David Threlfall (Shameless), with Amanda Redman and Helen McCrory. (R)

11.55 ITV News and Weather and New Year's Bongs The headlines, followed by Big Ben.

12.10 FILM: Carry On Camping (1969) Two men hatch a plan to lure their unsuspecting girlfriends to a nudist camp and introduce them to a life of wild abandon. Bawdy comedy, starring Sid James. ★★★ **1.40 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA** (R) **2.25 ITV Nightscreen 5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show** (R)

4.20 Fantastic Mr Fox (2009) Stop-motion animated adventure, with the voice of George Clooney. ★★★

6.00 The Simpsons Lisa tries to make amends for cheating in an exam, but the school authorities turn a deaf ear to her confession that she bought the answers from Nelson. (R)

6.30 Hollyoaks Hour-long episode. A desperate Nancy puts herself in danger, while Joe decides he must find out the truth about Freddie, and Robbie stands up to his dad.

7.30 Channel 4 News Including sport and weather.

8.00 Frozen at Christmas The makers of Disney's Frozen, the most successful animated film of all time, talk about its creation and production, and the writing and performance of its most popular songs. (R)

9.00 Alan Carr's New Year Specstacular The comedian is joined by Jonathan Ross, Gok Wan, Alesha Dixon, Mark Wright, James Corden, Caroline Flack and Seann Walsh, with music by Tulisa Contostavlos and Professor Green.

11.05 50 Funniest Moments 2014 Famous faces help count down the year's top 50 hilarious incidents across the worlds of TV, music, sport, politics and the internet – most of them unintentional. (R)

12.40 C4's 30 Greatest Comedy Shows Celebrating some of the station's most impressive comedy series, exploring the impact shows including Father Ted, Spaced and The Inbetweeners have had on British TV. (R) **2.30 The IT Crowd** Moss and Roy display curious symptoms. (R) **2.55 The IT Crowd** Jen deals with a difficult builder. (R) **3.20 The IT Crowd** Roy and Moss revel in their masculinity. (R) **3.50 Phil Spencer: Secret Agent** (R) **4.45 Kirstie's Handmade Treasures** (R) **4.55 Secret Eaters** (R) **5.50 How I Met Your Mother** (R)

3.10 The Dirty Dozen (1967) Second World War action adventure, with Lee Marvin. ★★★

6.05 Tommy Cooper's Christmas Special Festive edition of the comic magician's show from 1974, featuring music by Dana and Vic Damone and a guest appearance by French puppeteer Andre Tahon. (R)

7.00 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away High Court enforcement officers Paul Bohill and Steve and Ben Pinner face their biggest eviction yet, as they take on squatters in a large central London office block; (R) 5 News Update

8.00 World's Strongest Man 2014 Action from the fifth and final heat at the Commerce Casino in Los Angeles, which featured defending champion Brian Shaw and Britain's Graham Hicks; 5 News at 9

9.00 Britain's Favourite Sitcoms Mel Giedroyc narrates a countdown of the nation's 50 best-loved TV comedies, as voted for by Channel 5 viewers in an online poll.

12.00 The Abba Years The success of the Swedish group, exploring the flamboyant outfits, hit records, successful spin-offs, marriages and break-ups. Featuring interviews with the band members. (R) **1.00 SuperCasino** Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. **3.10 World's Strongest Man 2014** Action from the fourth and penultimate heat at the Commerce Casino in Los Angeles, which featured three-time champion Zydrunas Savickas. (R) **4.00 Great Scientists** The life and legacy of Charles Darwin, one of the most controversial scientists of all time, whose theory of evolution caused a storm in Victorian society. (R) **4.25 Chinese Food in Minutes** Steamed wine sea bass and a spicy beef dish. (R) **4.30 Chinese Food in Minutes** Ching-He Huang teaches two rugby players to prepare oriental dishes. (R) **4.45 House Doctor** (R) **5.10 House Doctor** (R) **5.35 Wildlife SOS** (R)

Late View

FESTIVE FASHIONS

A frock for every shape

A FAB NEW FROCK IS A MUST FOR THE FESTIVITIES, BUT WHICH STYLE SUITS YOUR BODY SHAPE BEST? KATIE WRIGHT SIZES UP THIS SEASON'S PARTYWEAR

Alongside all the gifts for your nearest and dearest, top of your shopping list right now should be a killer dress to see you through the cocktail parties and seasonal soirees that are no doubt crowding your diary.

But how do you choose from the avalanche of eveningwear that has landed in stores?

It's tempting to just grab the glitziest gown in sight, but if you really want to make an impact, you'd do better to consider your size and shape before you reach for the shop rails.

Bardot dress will suit those with boyish figures

Whether you're pear-shaped or petite, boyish or busty, here are the most desirable dresses of the season – one of them has your name written all over it.

THE WRAP DRESS

BEST FOR: Those with a larger bust

WHY? Because, in contrast, a high neckline gives the impression your 'ladies' are what is delightfully termed a 'uniboob'. Same goes for halter necks, which can push them too far north. A wrap or V-neck dress, on the other hand, separates and showcases your best assets beautifully.

Darker colours are more slimming, so if you want to go for a festive hue, make it burgundy rather than holly red, and be careful with all-over sequins or frills which can add bulk.

WEAR IT WITH: A supportive plunge bra. If you've never been properly measured, what are you waiting for? While you're shopping for your dress, head to the nearest lingerie department and do so immediately. It will change your life – or at least the fit of your party look.

Blue Embellished Dress, Evans

THE ILLUSION DRESS

BEST FOR: Curvy figures

WHY? Avoiding horizontal stripes is obvious for larger ladies, but an illusion dress goes one step further: carefully placed panels or embellishment giving the impression of a narrower silhouette. Just make sure the fabric is dense enough - jacquard is perfect - so it skims over any bumpy bits, and steer clear of ruffles or sparkle on areas you don't want to draw attention to, like the hips or bust.

WEAR IT WITH: Super-supportive underpinnings. Spanx or high-waisted control pants will enhance the slimming effect of your frock. Sizeable accessories are good too - chunky earrings and court shoes are proportionally better than dainty chains and skinny-strapped heels.

THE BARDOT DRESS

BEST FOR: Boyish figures

WHY? Because you're lucky enough to be able to wear a strapless bra – or even go braless – without feeling dangerously unsupported in the chest region, so this sexy off-the-shoulder style fits like a glove. Keep the focus on your pins with a clingy bodycon number, or go girly with something skater or full-skirted.

A word of warning, though; make sure the neckline doesn't fall too low. It should hit just below the shoulder, otherwise it can have a depleting effect on your bust. If your Bardot has an empire line or high waist, even better.

WEAR IT WITH: A moulded cup or push-up strapless bra to add curves

A fifties style dress hides bigger hips

TWO TO TRY:

THE PROM DRESS

BEST FOR: Pear shapes

WHY? Because you want to draw attention to your top half and skim over your bottom. A traditional Fifties prom style will do just that - as long as you bare in mind a couple of other pointers. First, the skirt shouldn't be too big, so a million layers of tulle is a no-no, and dark colours on the bottom are preferable. Second, make sure the waist is cinched in at your narrowest point, and look for eye-catching embellishment on the top half.

WEAR IT WITH: A blingy necklace (if the dress hasn't already got embellishment up top) to draw the eye upwards.

THE DIP HEM DRESS

BEST FOR: Tall girls

WHY? So you can show off your enviable pins, but won't feel so exposed at the back. Plus, it's more dressy than a straight-up cocktail frock. A dip hem gives you the best of both worlds and it's easier than trying to find a maxi dress that doesn't stop somewhere north of your ankles.

WEAR IT WITH: A skinny belt, if the dress is all one colour, or a bold necklace - but not both at the same time.

Oswestry & Border Chronicle Thursday, December 25, 2014

What will 2015 bring?

AS THE NEW YEAR COUNTDOWN BEGINS, IT'S TIME TO LOOK FORWARD. HERE'S WHAT'S IN STORE FOR 2015

For months now, casts and crews have been busy shooting the dramas and comedies that will be making you laugh and cry over the next year. From the second run of Broadchurch to Sheridan Smith's gritty new drama and a steamy adaptation of Lady Chatterley's Lover, here's a sneak peak at some of the series you'll be settling in front of the box for in 2015.

ORDINARY LIES

(BBC1)

Aiden Turner as Ross Poldark

All eyes will be on Michelle Keegan as she appears in her first project following her departure from Coronation Street. And what a gig to get. Written by Emmy and Bafta-winning Danny Brocklehurst, made by the team behind Happy Valley and Last Tango In Halifax, and starring the likes of Max Beesley, Jason Manford and Sally Lindsay, this darkly humorous series looks at how a simple lie can spiral out of control and change your life forever.

BROADCHURCH

(ITV)

Back in May, it was announced that a second series of Broadchurch would go into production – not the most surprising news, given the show's phenomenal success, but what can we expect this time round? As with the first series, not much has been revealed, but we do know that David Tennant returns as Alec Hardy and Olivia Colman resumes her roles as Ellie Miller, who was last seen trying to come to terms with the fact that her husband has killed local boy Danny Latimer. Jodie Whittaker and Andrew Buchan return as Danny's grieving parents Beth and Mark, alongside Arthur Darvill as local vicar Paul Coates, while Charlotte Rampling, Marianne Jean-Baptiste, Eve Myles and James D'Arcy will all pop up. Bar that, it's a guessing game.

Olivia Coleman David Tennant star in Broadchurch

POLDARK

(BBC One)

Aidan Turner came to the fore as a vampire in the supernatural comedy Being Human, and has gone onto star in The Hobbit movie trilogy. In 2015, his brooding looks are being put to good use as Ross Poldark, the titular character in an adaptation of Winston Graham's acclaimed sweeping saga set in 18th century Cornwall. The eight-part series also stars Jack The Giant Slayer's Eleanor Tomlinson, whose star is rising, as well as Whitechapel's Phil Davis.

BENIDORM

(ITV)

If you're looking for a little sun and sangria to brighten up early 2015 winter nights, then you'll be pleased to hear that a seventh series of award-winning comedy Benidorm soon returns, and runs into the New Year. It marks the return of Johnny Vegas (The Oracle) and Crissy Rock (Janey York) to the Solana resort. Also back by popular demand is Joan Collins as Solana's CEO, who will appear alongside show regulars Sherrie Hewson and Jake Canuso, as well as new faces Nadia Sawalha and John Challis.

LADY CHATTERLEY'S LOVER

(BBC One)

Julie Waters in Indian Summers

James Norton turned heads as the psychopathic Tommy Lee Royce in Happy Valley, and followed that up by playing a vicar in the period series Grantchester. His next project is a one-off drama based on the D. H Lawrence novel Lady Chatterley's Lover, which caused all sorts of controversy when it was first published in 1928. More than two decades after Sean Bean and Joely Richardson appeared in a rather risque adaptation of the story, Norton stars as the paralysed and distant Lord Clifford Chatterley, while The Borgias' Holliday Grainger plays his sexually frustrated wife Constance, who finds solace in the arms of gamekeeper Oliver Mellors, played by Game Of Thrones' Richard Madden.

INDIAN SUMMERS

(Channel 4)

Julie Walters stars in new 10-part period saga Indian Summers, set against the sweeping grandeur of the Himalayas and tea plantations of Northern India. It's the summer of 1932 and India dreams of independence, while the British are clinging to power. At the heart is Cynthia (Walters), one of the country's best-loved actresses.

New Year's Day

Early View

BBC 1

Gary Lineker presents Match of the Day, shown at 10.35pm

6.00 Breakfast Round-up of national and international news, plus the latest from the money markets. **9.00 FILM: Bee Movie (2007)** Animated comedy, with the voice of Jerry Seinfeld. ★★★ **10.25 FILM: Over the Hedge (2006)** Animated comedy, with the voice of Bruce Willis. ★★★ **11.40 Life Story: The Full Circle** Highlights of the natural history series. **12.45 The Archbishop of Canterbury's New Year Message** By the Most Rev Justin Welby. **12.50 BBC News 1.00 BBC Regional News;** Weather. **1.10 The Boy in the Dress** David Walliams' story about a youngster who wants to be different. (R) **2.10 FILM: Mary Poppins (1964)** Disney musical fantasy, with Julie Andrews. ★★★★

BBC 2

Jeremy Paxman hosts Christmas University Challenge, 8.30pm

6.15 Sign Zone: The Great Interior Design Challenge (R) **7.15 Sign Zone: Close Calls: On Camera** (R) **7.45 Alec Guinness: Talking Pictures** (R) **8.30 FILM: The Lavender Hill Mob (1951)** (b/w) ★★★★ **9.50 FILM: A Hard Day's Night (1964)** (b/w) ★★★★ **11.15 New Year's Day Concert Live from Vienna** Coverage of the Vienna Philharmonic's traditional New Year's Day concert. **12.50 Snow Wolf Family and Me** Part one of two. Gordon Buchanan explores the lives and habits of Arctic wolves. (R) **1.50 Snow Wolf Family and Me** Part two of two. Gordon Buchanan follows the wolves as they hunt. (R) **2.50 FILM: Galaxy Quest (1999)** Sci-fi comedy, starring Tim Allen. ★★★

ITV

New You've Been Framed! At Christmas, shown at 7.00pm

6.00 CITV: The Aquabats! Super Show! (R) **6.20 Pat & Stan** (R) **6.30 Dino Dan** (R) **6.55 Dino Dan** (R) **7.00 Canimals** (R) **7.10 Sooty** (R) **7.25 A Grizzly New Year's Tale** (R) **7.55 Super 4** (R) **8.10 Super 4** (R) **8.25 Dinner Date** Lucy from Surrey hopes to find love. (R) **9.25 The Jeremy Kyle Show 10.20 Judge Rinder** Real-life cases in a studio courtroom. (R) **11.20 Who's Doing the Dishes?** Tricia Penrose plays host. (R) **12.25 All Star Family Fortunes** With Nadia Sawalha and Jane Cox. (R) **1.25 ITV News and Weather 1.35 Secret Dealers** The dealers bid on a Victorian silver-mounted scent bottle. **2.35 You've Been Framed!** Comedy clips, including a cat that refuses to be put down. (R)

CH4

Alex Zane presents Rude Tube Welcome to 2015, shown at 10.30pm

6.15 FILM: The Three Worlds of Gulliver (1960) Fantasy adventure, starring Kerwin Mathews. ★★★ **7.55 FILM: The 7th Voyage of Sinbad (1958)** The wily sailor pits his wits against an evil magician to save a princess on an island inhabited by hideous monsters. Fantasy adventure, starring Kerwin Mathews and Kathryn Grant. ★★★ **9.45 The Big Bang Theory** Penny arranges a date for Raj. (R) **10.10 The Big Bang Theory** Sheldon's old adversary Wil Wheaton returns. (R) **10.40 The Simpsons** Marge recalls how she met Homer. (R) **11.10 FILM: The Last Mimzy (2007)** Children's fantasy, starring Chris O'Neil. ★★★ **1.00 Channel 4 Racing** Nick Luck presents live coverage of six races.

CH5

Andy and Maggie Robin feature, Hercules the Human Bear, 7.30pm

6.00 Milkshake! 9.45 Access Showbiz news and gossip. (R) **10.00 World's Strongest Man 2014** Action from the fifth and final heat at the Commerce Casino in Los Angeles, which featured defending champion Brian Shaw and Britain's Graham Hicks. (R) **11.00 FILM: The Dam Busters (1954)** An engineer designs an ingenious bouncing bomb to destroy major dams in Germany's industrial heartland. Fact-based Second World War drama, with Michael Redgrave. (b/w) ★★★★ **1.25 FILM: The Italian Job (1969)** A crook recruits a gang to steal $4million in gold bullion and make a quick getaway from central Turin in a fleet of Minis. Crime comedy, starring Michael Caine. ★★★★

Prime Time

4.25 The Adventures of Tintin: The Secret of the Unicorn (2011) Premiere. A reporter goes on a globetrotting quest to find a sunken ship containing a pirate's lost treasure. Animated adventure, with the voices of Jamie Bell and Andy Serkis. ★★★

6.05 BBC News

6.20 Midlands Today; Weather.

6.30 Roald Dahl's Esio Trot Dustin Hoffman and Judi Dench star in this adaptation of Roald Dahl's story about retired bachelor Mr Hoppy, who hits upon a cunning plan to romance his neighbour Mrs Silver.

8.00 Miranda The very last episode of the hit sitcom sees the shopkeeper making one final attempt to accept herself and find contentment. Miranda Hart stars, with Patricia Hodge and Tom Ellis.

8.30 EastEnders Hour-long episode. After the drama of Christmas, the good folk of Walford turn their attention to the new year – and things get off to an explosive start.

9.35 Mrs Brown's Boys The second of two festive episodes. Agnes increases her home security after a spate of local burglaries, while Cathy is feeling broody, giving lovelorn Buster Brady an idea.

10.10 BBC News

10.25 BBC Regional News; Weather.

10.35 Match of the Day Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League matches, including Tottenham Hotspur v Chelsea at White Hart Lane and Southampton v Arsenal at St Mary's Stadium.

12.10 Tony Bennett & Lady Gaga: Cheek to Cheek Live! The unlikely music duo take to the stage in New York. (R) **1.05 FILM: Road Trip (2000)** Comedy, starring Breckin Meyer, Tom Green and Seann William Scott. ★★ **2.35 Skiing Weatherview 2.40 BBC News**

4.25 The Archbishop of Canterbury's New Year Message By the Most Rev Justin Welby. (R)

4.30 Final Score A round-up of this afternoon's football results.

5.30 Force 10 from Navarone (1978) A commando mission to destroy a bridge in the Balkans that is vital to the Nazis is jeopardised by a traitor. Second World War adventure sequel, with Harrison Ford and Robert Shaw. ★★

7.30 Tigers About the House – What Happened Next Part two of two. The Clarks see the harsh reality of tiger poaching in Indonesia, while Spot faces an operation that may end with him losing all vision.

8.30 Christmas University Challenge Two teams of distinguished graduates compete on behalf of their former universities in the second semi-final of the festive edition of the academic quiz. Jeremy Paxman hosts.

9.00 Quartet (2012) Premiere. Three former opera singers' plans for a fundraising concert for their retirement home are disrupted by a new arrival. Comedy drama, with Maggie Smith and Billy Connolly. ★★★

10.30 Julie Walters: A Life on Screen The actress chats about her career, from her beginnings in theatre through to her successes in TV and film. With contributions by Victoria Wood, Celia Imrie and Hugh Bonneville. (R)

11.30 Mock the Week New Year's Eve Special Dara O Briain presents a selection of out-takes, quizzes and favourite clips. Last in the series. (R)

12.05 FILM: Frenzy (1972) Thriller, starring Jon Finch. ★★★ **1.55 FILM: Stick It (2006)** Comedy, starring Missy Peregrym. ★★★ **3.35 This Is BBC Two**

3.05 Thunderball (1965) James Bond sets out to foil a plot by crime syndicate Spectre to detonate two nuclear warheads off the US coast. Spy adventure, with Sean Connery, Claudine Auger and Adolfo Celi. ★★★

5.45 Rita & Me Barbara Knox looks back on her 50-year career on Coronation Street. (R)

6.45 ITV News and Weather

7.00 New You've Been Framed! At Christmas Harry Hill narrates a festive selection of comedy clips, featuring a photo-bombing reindeer, an explosive chimney and a squirrel wrecking his neighbour's Christmas lights. (R)

7.30 Emmerdale Hour-long episode. Belle persuades Lachlan to try one of the pills, but he struggles with the effects and takes a turn for the worse. Harriet tells Finn she has news about his mum.

8.30 Birds of a Feather Sharon amazes the others with her high IQ, and Dorien, under pressure to find a heroine for her next book, decides to push her toward a surprising new career.

9.00 The Dark Knight (2008) Premiere. Batman is pushed to breaking point as criminal mastermind the Joker plunges Gotham City into chaos. Comic-book thriller sequel, with Christian Bale and Heath Ledger. ★★★★

11.55 ITV News and Weather

12.00 The Cube A Londoner hopes to win enough money to take his family to Australia, while a police officer from the West Midlands thinks she is tough enough to walk away with the jackpot. (R) **12.50 Jackpot247** Viewers get the chance to participate in live interactive gaming from the comfort of their sofas, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. **3.00 The Jeremy Kyle Show USA** (R) **3.40 ITV Nightscreen 5.05 The Jeremy Kyle Show** (R)

3.30 Guy Martin's Passion for Life Documentary following the life of the motorcycle racer and lorry mechanic. (R)

4.00 Channel 4 News Including sport and weather.

4.10 The Wizard of Oz (1939) A tornado whisks a girl off to a magical land where she embarks on a journey in search of the wizard who knows the way home. Musical fantasy, with Judy Garland and Ray Bolger. ★★★★

6.10 Sister Act (1992) A nightclub singer is sent to live in a convent for her own protection after agreeing to testify against a brutal gangster. Comedy, starring Whoopi Goldberg and Harvey Keitel. Edited for language. ★★★

8.00 Snow White & the Huntsman (2012) Premiere. A princess joins forces with the warrior sent to kill her to overthrow an evil queen. Fantasy adventure, starring Kristen Stewart, Chris Hemsworth and Charlize Theron. Edited for violence. ★★★

10.30 Rude Tube Welcome to 2015 Alex Zane explores the 100 most popular internet videos of the past 12 months in a two-hour special, featuring the spider-dog prank.

12.35 FILM: The Godfather (1972) A crime boss entrusts control of his business to his three sons after an attempt is made on his life. Francis Ford Coppola's gangster drama, starring Marlon Brando. ★★★★ **3.30 Trans World Sport** Including a profile of wheelchair rugby in Australia, the Carolina-Duke US college basketball rivalry and an interview with Goran Ivanisevic. **4.30 Phil Spencer: Secret Agent** The property expert helps a couple on the Wirral whose five-bedroom semi looks like a student residence. (R) **5.25 Hugh's 3 Good Things: Best Bites** (R) **5.40 Small Animal Hospital** (R)

3.30 Ben-Hur (1959) A Jewish prince is betrayed by his Roman friend and sold into slavery, but returns years later to seek revenge. Oscar-winning epic, starring Charlton Heston and Stephen Boyd. ★★★★

7.30 Hercules the Human Bear The story of Andy and Maggie Robin's 25-year relationship with a grizzly bear they bought as a cub from an Aviemore zoo, and which went on to become a star of TV and films. (R)

8.30 World's Strongest Man 2014 Action from the Grand Final at the Commerce Casino in Los Angeles, which featured the 12 qualifiers from the five heats. Last in the series; 5 News Update

9.35 White Dee: What's All the Fuss About? Dee Kelly reveals how appearing on Benefits Street changed her life, leading to new-found fame and featuring public appearances, photoshoots, newspaper interviews and politics.

10.35 Celeb Big Brother: The Good, the Bad and the Unforgettable Emma Willis narrates a selection of memorable moments from the reality show, including George Galloway pretending to be a cat and Lionel Blair dressed in bondage gear.

12.35 Jim Davidson: At Least I'm Not Boring The comedian gives an insight into the highs and lows of his colourful personal and professional life, from hosting The Generation Game to appearing in Celebrity Big Brother. (R) **1.35 SuperCasino** Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. **4.00 Wildlife SOS** The work of volunteers at an animal sanctuary. (R) **4.20 Wildlife SOS** The work of volunteers at an animal sanctuary. (R) **4.45 House Doctor** Ann Maurice helps a couple sell their three-bedroom detached house. (R) **5.10 House Doctor** (R) **5.35 Wildlife SOS** (R)

Late View

Wayne Williams with his daughter Grace at the Welshpool Winter Festival

Everyone got into the festive spirit during Oswestry Christmas parade

People lined the streets for the Oswestry Christmas parade

More than 60 floats took part in this year's hugely successful Oswestry Christmas parade

People of all ages took part in the Oswestry Christmas parade in the town centre

Michael Garratt, Irene Denis, Gareth Jones and David Gordon

It was a busy time at the Chirk Christmas Fair held at the Parish Hall

Barbara Evans, Rita Williams, Jane Davies and Jan Sides at Chirk Fair

Fun time for everyone

REVELLERS in the Oswestry and Welshpool area certainly got into the festive spirit over the Christmas period with thousands of people attending a whole heap of seasonal events.

Come rain or shine, the area's many community events always seem to be well supported by local people and this year was no different.

Organisers of many of the events have thanked everyone who came out to support their celebrations over the past few weeks.

By Pam Kingsley

And once again local people had a whole host of events to choose from.

One of the best supported was Oswestry Christmas Live.

The popular event saw thousands of people come out to enjoy an evening of Christmas entertainment, fun and late night shopping in the town.

Organised by Oswestry Town Council and backed by many of the leading businesses in the town, the event was once again a big hit.

The town centre streets were closed off to traffic and jam packed with revellers who enjoyed a night of entertainment, funfair rides and late night shopping.

People from far and wide came into the town centre to enjoy Oswestry Christmas Live and organisers said once again the event was a huge success.

The town's Christmas procession, attended by more than 60 floats, was also another huge hit.

Again streets were closed off in the centre of Oswestry to allow the floats to navigate around the town and thousands of people lined the streets to watch the procession.

Organisers of the annual procession have announced the winners of each category in the float parade.

The commercial category winner was Lindstrand balloons for the firm's Alice in Wonderland float.

The non-commercial winner was Hope House Children's Hospice, based at Morda near Oswestry, for its White Christmas float.

Youth prize went to Gobowen Scouts for its Jungle Book float and Oswestry Cubs won the junior prize for its Three Days of Christmas float.

The prize for best walking group went to Shlurp! milk shake smoothie bar.

People of all ages have been celebrating the festive season including members of Oswestry Stroke Club who enjoyed their traditional Christmas lunch at the Sweet Lamb in Oswestry.

The event was attended by many, including Oswestry Mayor John Gareth Jones, Michael Garratt, Irene Denis and David Gordon. Many people also attended a Christmas Fair at Chirk Parish Hall. There were plenty of stalls to entice shoppers and bargain hunters looking for that elusive Christmas present.

Welshpool Winter Festival also saw many people visit the town centre to get into the festive spirit. Organisers said the festival and the town's light switch-on proved a huge success.

Astronaut Chris Hadfield spoke of his space travels to a captivated Oswestry audience

Chris Hadfield signed books for the audience during his appearance in Oswestry

TOUCHDOWN IN TOWN

By Mark Andrews

SINGING astronaut Chris Hadfield wowed the crowds by picking up his guitar at the end of a lecture at an Oswestry hotel.

Commander Hadfield, who became an internet sensation when he posted a video of himself singing David Bowie's Space Oddity while strumming his guitar aboard the International Space Station, addressed an audience of around 300 people at the Wynnstay Hotel.

The event was organised in conjunction with Booka Bookshop in Church Street, Oswestry, to promote his new book You Are Here — Around The World In 92 Minutes, which features some of the thousands of photographs he took during his six months aboard the station.

The astronaut, who retired last year, also talked about his two previous space expeditions, including two 'spacewalks' where he left the craft to float around in space.

But the biggest applause came when he picked up his guitar at the end of the one-hour lecture, and performed his version of Bowie's 1969 hit Space Oddity.

Commander Hadfield said he was excited by the latest developments in Mars exploration, particularly following the recent flawless test-flight by the Orion spacecraft, although he thought the days when we see manned expeditions to the planet are several generations away.

"The technology is not there at the moment," he said. "When you think how long it took to develop aviation, you go back to the days of the Wright brothers, and it is only really very recently that we have had truly affordable air travel."

Chris Hadfield played his cover version of Space Oddity at the end of his talk

The astronaut was happy to sign copies of his book

Many people were interested in meeting the famous astronaut

A large audience attended the talk at the Wynnstay Hotel in Oswestry

Life

And while he believed there was a good chance of life on Mars, he was sceptical about some of the wilder stories about extraterrestrial life.

"People seem to forget that the first letter of UFO is 'U', they are unidentified flying objects," he told the audience.

"There is no evidence to date of life anywhere other than on Earth.

"I think there probably is, to think we are the only life in the universe is down to an exaggerated sense of self-importance.

"But to think that every time you see something in the sky that you can't identify, and to assume that is somebody in a craft from Proxima Centauri coming to have a look because we are so fantastic is also an exaggerated sense of self-importance."

Mr Hadfield, known around the world as "the singing astronaut", recalled an encounter with a car park attendant from the night before, as he addressed a mesmerised audience.

"I was at this car park in Manchester last night, and the man comes up to me and says 'hey, you're the Space Oddity guy, aren't you?," he says.

"I say 'yes', and then I'm thinking, 'hang on a minute, I commanded a spaceship."

For all his accomplishments during an illustrious career in both the Canadian military and with Nasa, it was his extraterrestrial rendition of a David Bowie cover that makes him probably the most famous living astronaut after Buzz Aldrin.

The clip, which shows him strumming away at his guitar, has been viewed 20 million times on YouTube.

"I've played the guitar since I was a kid," he said. "I take my guitar everywhere I go, so it was only natural I would take it with me."

Hadfield, who is now 55, said it was his son Evan who persuaded him to perform Bowie's melancholic song from 1969 to his audience on social media.

"My initial thought was 'why would I want to do that'," he said.

"Major Tom dies at the end of the song, and I'm still alive, but then I thought I could do a slightly different version of it where Major Tom survives."

Like many of his generation, he became fascinated by space travel as a youngster, having grown up on a diet of Arthur C Clarke novels and early episodes of Star Trek.

However, it was the moon landings of 1969 which convinced him that he really wanted to be an astronaut.

"I was fascinated by the way the impossible became possible," he said.

"On the morning of July 20, it was impossible to walk on the moon. By the evening of July 20, man could not just walk on the moon, but could sleep on the moon, and that happened because of the incredible drive of man's labour."

He described man's fascination with life beyond this planet as the natural progression from the great pioneering explorers of centuries gone by.

He said: "It's how we have explored the earth for around 7,000 years, it's how there's people in the Americas now, it's how we have people living all over the world."

However, he says an astronaut's life is far from that of the gung-ho adventurer. "If the only thing you really enjoyed was whipping around Earth in a spaceship, you'd hate being an astronaut," he said.

"When I was nine years old, I dreamed of blasting off in a blaze of glory to explore the universe, not sitting in a classroom studying orbital mechanics. In Russian."

He said being an astronaut is as much a state of mind as anything, preparing for every possible outcome, when every action can be a life-and-death decision.

In his 21-year career as an astronaut, he has spent just 166 days in space, with the rest of his time dedicated to study, training and preparation. "Astronauts are not adrenaline junkies," he said. "You have to be willing to train repetitively on safety procedures on board the International Space Station even though you think you know them inside out. You have to accept that you'll need to master a lot of skills that seem arcane, or that you might never even get to use, or both. And you can't view any of it as a waste of time."

It is this mindset which meant he had little fear when he was blasted into the sky on his first space flight aboard Space Shuttle Atlantis in 1995.

"You're strapped into a chair lying on your back, you're about to be blasted into the air at 17,500mph," he says. "That is blisteringly fast, it's like going around the word in 92 minutes, or from here to Winnipeg in 13 minutes.

"It takes eight-and-a-half minutes before you leave the atmosphere, and that is the most dangerous eight-and-a-half minutes of your life

"In that eight-and-a-half minutes there are so many things that can go wrong, and all that time you have to focus on how you are going to deal with anything that comes along."

And he said while everyone who travels into space will feel some fear during those crucial first minutes, he said it is also a time of great exhilaration. "After my first blast-off in 1995, my face was hurting, I didn't realise it was because I had been smiling so much," he said.

During his second flight in April 2001 he became the first Canadian to leave a spacecraft and float freely around space. During the 11-day expedition he performed two space walks, travelling 10 times around the world in just under 15 hours.

Many dignitaries attended the offcial opening of the hall

The entrance to the new Adcote School sports hall

Adcote School is at Little Ness, between Oswestry and Shrewsbury

Pupils applaud as multi marathon runner Amy Hughes cuts the ribbon to officially open the sports hall

There was no shortage of cheers as the sports hall was officially opened at Adcote School

School pupils turned out to see the official opening

Gymnasts try out the facilities in the new Adcote School sports hall

The new Adcote School sports hall cost £330,000

Sports hall is opened

RECORD-BREAKING marathon runner Amy Hughes offered encouragement to a new generation of budding young sports stars when she opened a new £330,000 school sports hall.

Report by Pam Kingsley

Amy, 26, visited Adcote School to open its sports hall and talk to the girls about her world record set earlier this year by running 53 marathons in 53 consecutive days.

The new sports hall is part of a multi-million pound refurbishment and building project which has seen the school spend £2 million this year alone on new classrooms, a new boarding house, expanded catering facilities and sixth form centre.

Gary Wright, headmaster at the school in Little Ness, between Oswestry and Shrewsbury, said: "I am delighted that Amy agreed to open our brand new sports hall.

"Amy is a local sporting hero and a great role model for our pupils.

"Her sporting achievements are amazing.

"I could think of no better person more suited to opening our new facility. The new sports hall will dramatically improve the schools sporting opportunities on site.

"The new building will ensure that the school has another first class facility to support its continued growth in the coming years.

"Our pupils are very keen to start using it.

"With our continuing growth in pupil numbers and our strong reputation locally, these are undoubtedly exciting times for Adcote School.

"We are constantly seeking ways in which we can build and improve the school for the future.

"Everyone in the Adcote School community, pupils, parents and staff are both excited and inspired to see that the school is really on the up and investing in the future." Amy, from Oswestry, said she was excited to visit the school and meet all the pupils.

She said: "I had a great morning cutting the ribbon for the new sports hall."

The invitation to open the new sports hall at Adcote School was another highlight in a remarkable year for the keep fit fanatic.

She has attended various events and prestigious functions since setting the new record.

The runner was invited to switch on Oswestry's Christmas lights last month and was invited to attend the West Midlands Community Sports Awards. Amy ran 53 consecutive marathons during August and September to bring in money for the Isabelle Lottie Foundation, which supports the families of children with brain tumours.

She managed to raise £35,000 by the end of her runs and has been doing extra events, including a Halloween half marathon around Oswestry, to boost her fundraising.

She held a final fundraising event at the Lion Quays in Oswestry to meet her target of raising £53,000. To sponsor Amy visit https://mydonate.bt.com/fundraisers/53marathons, like her Facebook site 53.53marathons or follow her on Twitter at @53marathons.

Oswestry & Border Chronicle Thursday, December 25, 2014

BRAIN TRAINING

Test your mental agility. Target times, in minutes, are in the little clocks

9-er (3)

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all 9 letters.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

THE CLUES
145 gives an animal,
241175 gives an animal,
6322789 gives a fish.

Your time:

X is to Y (2)

1. Come Together is to Abbey Road as Nowhere Man is to ? A HARD DAY'S NIGHT, HELP!, REVOLVER, RUBBER SOUL, SGT. PEPPER'S LONELY HEARTS CLUB BAND

2. Tribbles is to Enterprise as Alien is to ? KURTZ, NARCISSUS, NAN-SHAN, NOSTROMO, SULACO

3. Carrie is to Debbie as Gwyneth is to ? BLYTHE, JUDY, MERYL, OLIVIA, STOCKARD

Your time:

Mindbender (3)

If you reverse the two digits of Gabriella's age, you get the sum of her twin daughters' ages. Fifteen years ago she was two years less than double the sum of her daughters' ages then. How old is Gabriella today?

Your time:

Mirror Image (2)

Which of the four shapes below is an exact mirror image of the shape on the right?

A

B

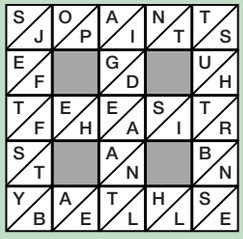
C

D

Your time:

Split Decision (3)

Cross out one of the two letters in each divided square to reveal a completed crossword grid.



Your time:

IMPOSSIPUZZLES

1. 'So, that's Linda,' said Ted, studying the photo. 'Quite a young woman now.'
'Still in her teens.' Harry laughed. 'And that's Dick with her. When he was half as old as she is now, she was a third as old as he was when Linda was half as old as he is now.'
How old was Dick?

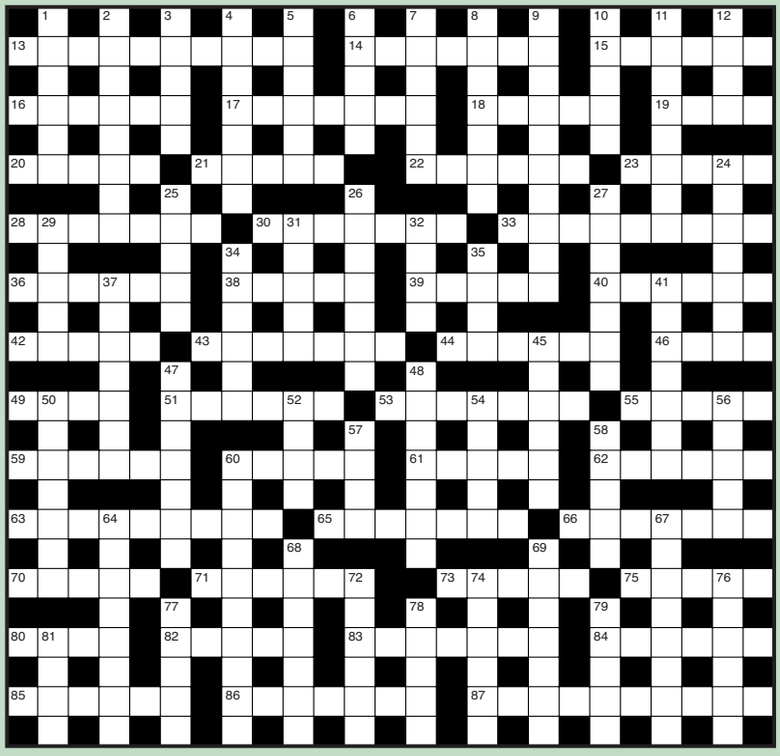
2. 'I found these two tickets on the bathroom floor,' said Paul. 'They could be valuable.'
Steve took them. 'Thanks a lot, Dad, they're for our Club raffle,' he replied. 'But it's nothing very big, 10p each, and there are only five hundred tickets in all.'
'Well, I amused myself working out something on their numbers,' Paul told the boy. 'They're consecutive and the difference between their cubes is exactly seven times the square of the number of our house.'
What were the ticket numbers?

3. 'The pavements are wide but not the same. One is a third again as wide as the other,' said Mike. 'That may explain it.'
Peter nodded. 'Could be,' he replied. 'In fact, the roadway itself is four metres wider than the narrower one, exactly as wide as the two pavements together.'
How wide was the roadway?

SUDOKU

6	9			3		2		
4			6		9	3		
				8			6	1
	4				3		1	
8		5				6		9
	6		5				7	
7	8			5				
		9	3		7			6
		6		9			5	4

CROSSWORD

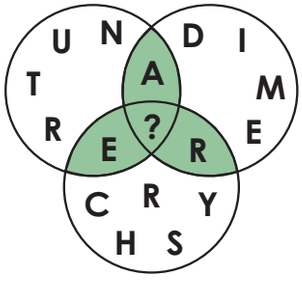


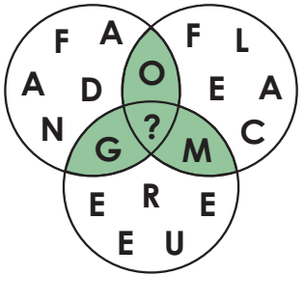
ACROSS
13 Liqueur (10)
14 Case (7)
15 Visit (4,2)
16 Signs (6)
17 Settled (7)
18 Liquid (5)
19 Undecided (4)
20 Chopped (5)
21 Vacillate (5)
22 Moistens (6)
23 Bang (5)
28 Shone (7)
30 Shaky (7)
33 Scold (9)
36 Game (6)
38 Step (5)
39 Yet (5)
40 Inconvenienced (3,3)
42 Applaud (5)
43 Descent (7)
44 Colonise (6)
46 Holes (4)
49 Planet (4)
51 Sour (6)
53 Anxiety (7)
55 Dog (5)
59 Mettle (6)
60 Vegetable (5)
61 Avenue (5)
62 Walking (2,4)
63 Trouble (5,4)
65 Reading (7)
66 Slid (7)
70 Lead (5)
71 Series (6)
73 Riddle (5)
75 Squabbles (5)
80 Attempt (4)
82 Jam (5)
83 Ran (7)
84 Dangers (6)
85 Lots (6)
86 Lucky (2,1,4)
87 End (10)

DOWN
1 Fee (6)
2 Biscuits (8)
3 Annoyed (5)
4 Summary (3-4)
5 Light (6)
6 Colour (5)
7 Pictures (6)
8 Waiter (7)
9 Nearly (6,4)
10 Scratch (5)
11 Metal (8)
12 Second-rate (4)
24 Behaviour (7)
25 Number (5)
26 Usual (7)
27 Fell (7)
29 Tree (5)
31 Pull (5)
32 Hurry (4)
34 Give (6)
35 Animals (4)
37 Cupboard (7)
41 Dumps (4,3)
45 Artist (6)
47 Complain (7)
48 Collapses (5,2)
50 Inform (7)
52 Article (4)
54 Country (5)
56 Near (5)
57 Had been (4)
58 Works (5)
60 Pudding (7,3)
64 Tries (3,1,4)
67 Flower (8)
68 Soft drink (7)
69 Clear (7)
72 Boards (4,2)
74 Undamaged (6)
76 Chap (6)
77 Swindle (5)
78 Trundles (5)
79 While (5)
81 Catch (4)

CIRCLEGRAM

Replace the question mark with a letter so that the letters within each circle can be rearranged to form words with a common theme. What are the three words, and the letter represented by the question mark?





ALPHAMUDDLE

Rearrange the letters to make five words that read both across and down. Five letters have been placed to start you off.

S	N	A	R	E
C	O	I	N	I
D	O	S	I	C
C	A	I	N	U
C	U	R	R	Y

		C		
				N
			R	
	O			
A				

SOLUTIONS

Brain Training
9-er
9-letter word: BREATHING. Bat, rabbit, herring.
X is to Y
1. Rubber Soul, 2. Nostromo, 3. Blythe.
Mindbender
Gabriella is Sixty five.
Mirror Image
A is the mirror image.
Split Decision >

J	O	I	N	T
E		D		U
T	H	E	I	R
T		A		N
Y	E	L	L	S

Crossword
ACROSS: 13 Chartreuse. 14 Holster. 15 Call on. 16 Traces. 17 Decided. 18 Water. 19 Torn. 20 Hewed. 21 Swing. 22 Sprays. 23 Knock. 28 Flashed. 30 Shivery. 33 Reprimand. 36 Bridge. 38 Stair. 39 Still. 40 Put out. 42 Cheer. 43 Lineage. 44 Settle. 46 Pits. 49 Mars. 51 Rancid. 53 Concern. 55 Pooch. 59 Spirit. 60 Swede. 61 Drive. 62 On foot. 63 Tight spot. 65 Perusal. 66 Slipped. 70 Leash. 71 String. 73 Sieve. 75 Tiffs. 80 Stab. 82 Wedge. 83 Trotted. 84 Perils. 85 Masses. 86 On a roll. 87 Conclusion.
DOWN: 1 Charge. 2 Crackers. 3 Cross. 4 Rundown. 5 Beacon. 6 Shade. 7 Slides. 8 Steward. 9 Pretty well. 10 Score. 11 Platinum. 12 Poor. 24 Conduct. 25 Seven. 26 Average. 27 Dropped. 29 Larch. 31 Heave. 32 Rush. 34 Assign. 35 Mice. 37 Dresser. 41 Tips off. 45 Turner. 47 Protest. 48 Folds up. 50 Apprise. 52 Spotted dog. 64 Has a bash. 67 Primrose. 68 Mineral. 69 Evident. 72 Gets on. 74 Intact. 76 Fellow. 77 Twist. 78 Rolls. 79 Spell. 81 Trap.

Impossipuzzles
1. Dick 22 years old, Linda 18.; 2. Tickets 166 and 167.; 3. Roadway 7 metres wide.

Circlegram
A: The letter represented by the question mark is L. Renault, Daimler, Chrysler, all car manufacturers.
B: The letter represented by the question mark is N. Fandango, Flamenco, merengue, all dances.

Alphamuddle
Yucca, Union, Cirri, Cords, Anise.

Sudoku

6	9	8	1	3	5	2	4	7
4	7	1	6	2	9	3	8	5
5	3	2	7	8	4	9	6	1
2	4	7	9	6	3	5	1	8
8	1	5	4	7	2	6	3	9
9	6	3	5	1	8	4	7	2
7	8	4	2	5	6	1	9	3
1	5	9	3	4	7	8	2	6
3	2	6	8	9	1	7	5	4

It's a tough time of year for our friends the birds

ON THE WILDSIDE

with Ben Waddams

IT'S fair to say that birds take a pretty hard hammering at Christmas time.

Outside, unlike small mammals and insects, they cannot burrow beneath the earth or shelter under the mud of the lake bed as the amphibians do.

They must brace themselves against the elements and survive whatever nature will throw at them. And then there are the turkeys, chickens, ducks and geese that find their unfortunate way on to our Christmas dinner plates.

But there is one species missing from that unenviable list, the Swan. Swans can, it is said, only legally be found on the Christmas table of the Queen at this or any other time of the year. Indeed there is a summer tradition to celebrate this fact, Swan Upping. This historic ceremony dates from the twelfth century, when the Crown claimed ownership of all mute swans. At that time swans were regarded as a delicious dish at banquets and feasts. Today, the Crown retains the right to ownership of all unmarked mute swans in open water, but The Queen only exercises her ownership on certain stretches of the Thames and its surrounding tributaries.

This ownership is shared with the Worshipful Company of Vintners and the Worshipful Company of Dyers, who were granted rights of ownership by the Crown in the fifteenth century. Nowadays, of course, the swans are no longer eaten but the ceremony still plays an important part in the conservation of the Mute Swan on the Thames. The Queen's Swan Marker, the Royal Swan Uppers and the Swan Uppers of the Vintners' and Dyers' livery companies use six traditional Thames rowing skiffs in a five-day journey up-river to carry out a census of the swan population.

Swans have left their image throughout history, from fossils in caves and the crusades of Richard I, to Arthurian Legend and Greek mythology. Aristotle, Plato and Socrates all believed that a swan's singing prowess was heightened as death approached, giving rise to the idea of the swan song, or the final performance. Christmas may not see swans on dinner plates anymore, but of course they must still fight for their lives like all the other birds.

However our image of that huge, graceful white bird with orange and black beak is a little skewed at this time of the year for another reason.

Mute swans, our common and resident species are contested by migrants from the North. Bewick's and Whooper swans migrate down from Scandinavia.

The Bewick's are the smaller of the two species, much more akin to a goose in size and you'd do well to see them in Shropshire, although it's not unheard of.

The larger Whoopers are more often sighted throughout the winter and can be tracked down using the Shropshire Ornithological Society's website, (see: Bird Reports) who do a wonderful job in preserving some of their wetland habitat.

Bewick's whooper and mute, by Ben Waddams

Calls for more to be done to help county's lonely

MORE should be done to combat loneliness in the elderly in Shropshire, a charity has said following a report that highlighted an increase in calls for help.

Shropshire's Age UK branch made the call after it was revealed a 24-hour helpline that was founded by Esther Rantzen has been inundated with calls.

According to national statistics there are around 10,000 lonely people in Shropshire alone, which means they go a month or more without any contact with family, friends or neighbours.

The Silver Line has received around 300,000 calls in its first year from people saying they felt lonely or isolated, and more than half the users said they had no one else to talk to.

Many other users have even called to report abuse or neglect in their homes or in residential care.

The Silver Line uses trained staff to, offer information, friendship and advice, link callers to local groups and services, offer regular befriending calls, and to protect and support those who are suffering abuse and neglect.

Callers who use the service can sign up to receive a weekly friendship call or email and can even join a Silver Circle and take part in a regular group call on subjects that may interest them.

Hilary Knight, deputy chief executive, of Age UK Shropshire Telford and Wrekin, said: "Silver Line is a very useful service and at Age UK Shropshire Telford & Wrekin we very much welcome anything that can help lonely older people.

"Loneliness is a common and widespread issue, and it is a miserable thing. It can have a negative impact on health and wellbeing, increasing susceptibility to heart disease and Alzheimer's disease for example. And as a local independent charity we are working hard to help lonely older people. We do have our own hotline called Telephone Buddies, which we run every Monday, but we also have our befriending service, which means lonely people in Shropshire have weekly visits from our volunteers.

"At the moment we have around 300 people who use that service but we also have a waiting list of around 200 people, so we desperately need more volunteers and even the money to support them."

People can call Silver Line on 0800 470 8090, or for more information on Age UK's services call (01743) 233788.

CHRONICLE

British Ironwork Centre Team

THE BRITISH IRONWORK CENTRE ARE DELIGHTED TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH THE CHRONICLE, WE RECEIVE A FIRST CLASS SERVICE AND WOULD BE MORE THAN CONFIDENT TO RECOMMEND THIS PAPER FOR - EXCELLENT QUALITY, GREAT COVERAGE AND WONDERFUL CUSTOMER SERVICE

THE CHRONICLE AND MIDLAND NEWS ASSOCIATION IS AT THE CORE OF OUR MARKETING AND CUSTOMER AWARENESS STRATEGY ONGOING.

CLIVE KNOWLES, MANAGING DIRECTOR, BRITISH IRONWORK CENTRE

The leading local news provider reaching 16,569* readers around Oswestry.

TO FIND OUT HOW ADVERTISING WITHIN THE OSWESTRY & BORDER CHRONICLE CAN HELP YOUR BUSINESS CALL 01691 668095 OR EMAIL: MARCUSEVANS@SHROPSHIRESTAR.CO.UK

Source: ABC

Part of Shropshire Newspapers Ltd

MNA Media

Making Friends

Try it.. You'll love it!

YOUR local dating service, **run by the dating experts who have been established since 1990.** REAL people in YOUR area..

Here's how to use your dating service ...

Place your advert call:
0844 887 2292
and follow the simple instructions

To Place your ad by text
Simply text **REG** followed by your first name, date of birth, area and your advert (max 155 characters) and send to **80098**
FREE Standard Network rates apply.

To Reply to members from your landline call:
0906 500 3724
calls cost £1.53 per min

Have the adverts 6-digit box no written down and do key-it-in promptly when asked. Don't forget to leave contact details for replies.

For a quicker service from your mobile call: 0906 500 5650
calls cost £1.53 per minute plus network charges

Or Text.. REPLY**22** (leave a space) the six-digit box number (leave a space) and then enter your message & send to 80098 eg: REPLY**22**123456 ***hi get in touch...*** then send to 80098 Successfully forwarded messages cost £1.50 per message (Max 160 characters). You must exchange 7 messages each before you can swap contact details. Messages may be moderated for your safety and security.

Date ONLINE
YOU can now date online or via your **mobile**
Simply VISIT us at:
http://dating.shropshirestar.com

Been left a message? Pickup your replies on:
0906 500 3726
calls cost £1.53 per min

THE biggest UK on-line database of 17 million UK REAL users waiting to meet you.. visit.. http://dating.shropshirestar.com

Women seeking men

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.53 per minute plus network extras. Texts cost £1.50 per message sent.

RITA attractive blonde with a very kind heart seeks special man to share my life with. Please get in touch if like me you are fed up with always being the single friend. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412987**

SOPHIA young 40yrs, married but bored, seeks discreet adult fun, any area, all calls answered. **Tel No: 0905 002 1883 Box No: 413399**

JAN 5ft8ins slim pretty lady in great shape, open-minded, laidback, GSOH, OHAC, many interests, WLTM someone for cuddling up with and to share good and bad times. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412931**

LUCY, 32yrs, blonde lady seeks naughty boys of any age for no strings fun. **Tel No: 0905 002 1887 Box No: 413443**

ANN slim attractive N/S lady who is easy to get along with, looking for romantic interesting man for new adventures together, hopefully ltr. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412911**

ADVENTUROUS sexy lady, 38yrs, married but seeks no strings fun with discreet man, any age. I'm tall, slim and dominant. Aca. **Tel No: 0905 002 1937 Box No: 415301**

JULIE loving, caring, honest, seeks real gent to share conversation and have a great time, friendship/relationship, who knows? **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412777**

LUCY, broadminded 18yrs seeks discreet fun with men any age. Aca. **Tel No: 0905 002 1941 Box No: 365051**

SALLY stunning lady looking for dinner dates, partying and generally having a good time with generous man looking for his mojo! No strings, go on call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412599**

SEXY brunette, mid 20's busty, adventurous broad minded seeks no strings fun. **Tel No: 0905 002 1949 Box No: 361739**

DEBS petite attractive auburn haired, good listener, romantic, enjoys socialising, cosy nights in with Mr Right, seeking similar caring N/S single dad. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412387**

SALLY, 38yrs large cuddly lady seeks slim men for discreet meetings. **Text Only 4550193**

JAN slim curvy professional warm, affectionate, looking to fill full time vacancy with similar male who loves cuddles/kisses and bikes for romance. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412167**

TRUDY 36yrs, wltm broadminded men of any age/area for daytime meetings. **Text Only 4550194**

ATTRACTIVE slim brunette, 47, N/S, seeks tall, slim male for a cut above the average relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412725**

MELANIE, 38, slim, blonde and bored. Call if you want no strings fun. **Text Only 4550198**

KAREN pretty blonde, short in stature, big personality, keeps fit, loves dogs, seeking honest, caring male who can make me laugh. Nothing too serious just fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412377**

JENNI, 52 bored housewife wants no strings fun with younger chap. **Text Only 4550197**

JEAN petite female who enjoys golf, days out, cosy evenings in, holidays, WLTM older male in his 60's with a good personality and big heart. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412359**

JULIE really fun loving slim pretty female 38 looking for nice guy to go out with, get to know and hopefully enjoy a relationship with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411517**

GWENDOLINE honest, trustworthy, seeks caring gent who enjoys cinema, theatre, holidays and nights out for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412293**

SLIM active lady, 60's, N/S, seeks honest, kind gent, 57-62 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 407693**

DIANE voluptuous curvy and all woman, loves dancing, walking, cosy nights in, WLTM nice man for friendship, hopefully leading to something more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412321**

SARA bored blonde looking for single gents for fun, chats and meets, looking forward to hearing from you, don't be shy. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412055**

EMMA petite young looking 31yr old attractive single brunette, loves walking, talking, music, seeks honest romantic 30-40yrs. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412037**

ANNABELL 29 slim sophisticated well travelled interesting sensual fit brunette with lots to offer seeks older male to appreciate and treat me well. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412177**

KAREN slim, tall, attractive 36yr old normal female who likes shopping, socialising, nights in/out seeking thoughtful genuine male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412041**

KIM 25yrs feminine, pretty, big blue eyes, GSOH, varied interests, likes romantic beach walks, cosy nights in, seeking honest loving man for ltr. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411777**

CAROL young 47, caring, loyal, likes music, concerts, cinema, theatre, seeks male with similar interests for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411919**

PROFESSIONAL black lady, likes cooking, music, countryside, seeking honest, reliable gent, possibly farmer for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411763**

VICKY 37yr professional, mum to one, sensual and very attractive, looking for a real man, tall, fit, sincere and passionate to enjoy each other's company. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411695**

LUCY beautiful busty bubbly blonde 32yrs, seeking naughty boy to enjoy the fun side of life with, age, status and looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411691**

LINDA single and living alone, attractive, young looking, bubbly, WLTM similar young at heart companion to be close with, enjoy chats and romantic dates. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 410119**

WIDOW 68, 5ft 5ins, medium build, attractive, likes walks, reading, holidays, seeks sincere, N/S male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411745**

JEAN young at heart lady, active, 70 plus, N/S, GSOH, likes walks, gardening, outings, WLTM sincere, caring male, 69-74 for companionship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411711**

TINA sexy black female looking for healthy distractions with fun adult companion, interested? You won't be disappointed, give me a call. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411519**

LYNNE young looking attractive Indian female with GSOH and down to earth attitude, looking for likeminded male for date nights, hopefully more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411219**

EMMIE 50, attractive brunette, 5ft 3ins, OHAC, likes country walks, music, reading, seeks genuine, friendly, professional male with GSOH for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411281**

RETIRED happy, caring, attractive female, likes gardening, travel, animals, comedy, seeks tall, funny, kind chap, Shropshire. **0906 500 3724 Box No: 411459**

RITA naughty 40's petite pretty female looking for that special man in my life, any age, to get to know and see what happens, you only live once remember! **0906 500 3724 Box No: 410959**

SUE 34, likes most things in life, even football! looking for my Mr Wonderful thought I would give this a try. Come on what do we have to loose, call me. **0906 500 3724 Box No: 410765**

CAROL slim attractive blonde, sporty, easy going, broadminded looking for likeminded male with plenty of va va voom, 35-45. **0906 500 3724 Box No: 409717**

KAREN 32 a hardworking petite blonde, enjoys nights out, music, etc, WLTM for more than just friendship with similar chilled, kind, easy going guy. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 410461**

SUSAN 64, lively, seeking male for friendship, maybe more. **0906 500 3724 Box No: 411329**

SUE 38, attractive broadminded attentive, enjoys meals in/out etc, not necessarily looking for Mr Right as Mr Wrong or even Mr Right now could be fun! Call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411049**

ANGIE attractive slim blonde just looking for a lovely spontaneous guy who like me just wants good company and a nice relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 410641**

KATHERINE 35yr old outgoing single female looking to enjoy dates with similar male also looking for fun times in or out. Age, looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 410565**

PAULINE attractive divorced female with no ties, employed with my own home, likes nights in/out, lots of tlc to give to the right person, call me for a chat, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411039**

JEN attractive sensual petite blonde with OHAC seeks confident fit professional male to enjoy and share good times, if that's you pls get in touch. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 410949**

ARE you dark or bald, with hairy chest, well built, educated, verbal, articulate dom or sub, broadminded and ready to be put in your place? Curious to find out more? call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 410637**

29YR old black beautiful busty tall loving very sensual lady, likes football, making friends, seeking genuine white male for enjoyable loving relationship. pls no time wasters. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 410577**

ZOE 25 long haired sensual female, very naughty, broadminded and open, looking for similar fun guy for uncomplicated adult meets. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 409719**

JANE attractive, feminine open-minded mature female genuinely looking for adult fun. No time wasters please. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 409715**

JILL 50, attractive, 5ft, blonde, own home, no ties, likes films, reading, travel, music, good social circle, seeking that someone special. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 410105**

ATTRACTIVE professional lady, 56, enjoys country walks, meals out, seeks professional gent with GSOH to enjoy the good things in life. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 409895**

ELAINE attractive 39yr old blonde single mum seeking respectful male/dad with similar interests for adult friendship, hopefully leading to love. looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 410117**

DONNA 27yrs blue eyed blonde with cute dimpled smile, loves socialising but looking for that special someone with GSOH to cuddle up with, enjoy fun/good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 409733**

MARGARET OHAC, professional, sincere, adventurous, loving, kind, solvent lady who enjoys most things WLTM caring male with similar refined tastes. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 407925**

HI I'm Pam, cuddly, attractive, self-sufficient, employed, looking for similar young looking, sincere male for hopeful ltr. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 407933**

Our NEW MatchMaker service makes meeting people easy!
TRY IT FOR FREE TODAY!
Matchmaker does all the hard work for you. We connect you with other members in your area who match your interests to take the stress out of meeting new people.
SIMPLY TEXT MATCH TO 89990
First 3 messages received are free; thereafter £1.50. Text STOP to 89990 to exit at any time.

YOUNG early 40's female, GSOH, kind, caring, considerate, seeks male for friendship, possible romance. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 410847**

CAROL 38 attractive romantic not looking for fairy tales just happy endings, seeking lovely male to put the sparkle back into my life. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 410721**

CLAIRE voluptuous tall feminine attractive lady who loves good company, fine wine/food, travel, WLTM tall professional for romance dates and hopeful ltr. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 410627**

LORRAINE 5ft 9ins, slim, 57, nurse, looking for someone to look after me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 410543**

MICHELLE 37, looking for laughter fun and romance with the right guy, if you could be him and have nothing to loose call me for a chat. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 410415**

TAYLOR 21 black beautiful classy intelligent, loves to have lots of fun and enjoy life to the full, seeking mature guy to make me happy. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 409911**

WENDY 50, blue eyes, 5ft 7ins, likes music, meals out, seeks white male, 45-55 with similar interests and GSOH for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 410499**

73YR old Hereford lady, GSOH, young at heart, many interests, seeks caring, genuine gent of similar age for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 410331**

NICKY bubbly curvy fun blonde, varied interests, enjoys meals out, holidays, seeking N/S male with GSOH for possible ltr. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 410479**

LIZ 5ft 7ins, attractive, outgoing, likes walks, dogs, cooking, seeks male for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 410395**

BLACK female, 45, seeking older gent, 60 plus who knows how to look after a lady. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 407787**

ATTRACTIVE 49yr old divorced lady, looking for honest, reliable man for LTR, 49-60. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 409955**

ABBA girl blonde lookalike, size 16, attractive, bubbly, OHAC, seeking solvent, refined, handsome guy with full head of hair, 5ft 9ins plus, professional and courteous. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 409151**

NEETA Black beauty, classy, intelligent 21yrs, loves to enjoy life, have lots of fun and be spoilt, give me a call. Any age, looks and status. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 409101**

HI I'm Jo, first timer, newly divorced perfect size 10, blonde, attractive, tactile and looking to fall in love again. Age unimportant, dad welcome. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 409089**

SUSIE 32yr old nurse who likes cosy nights in with a good bottle of wine and spending quality times with great company, if you feel the same pls get in touch. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 408877**

BABS 27yrs slender with dark haired passionate Italian who loves to dance, eat out, looking for nice n/s male to spend quality adult time with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 407943**

BUBBLY 60 plus lady, slim, fair hair, comfy in jeans and leather jacket, seeks similar male for friendship etc. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 408859**

JOANNA 34, in need of tlc, wining, dining being treated like the princess I am, looking for sugar daddy, that someone special to love me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 408869**

MARIA gorgeous outgoing bbw 27, good fun, caring, romantic, looking for that special someone to share life with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 408733**

KIM attractive single lady new to area looking for meet new friends and maybe a new love interest. I have many hobbies and am interesting to know, pls call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 408489**

TAYLOR attractive very busty curvy black female looking for fun times with open-minded male who is also looking for fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 408311**

BETHANY 25yr old blonde, slim size 10 with great personality, looking for nice guy to share my life with, single dad welcome. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 408253**

KIRSTY blonde blue eyed size 12 nurse, enjoys cosy nights, driving, holidays, socialising, WLTM broadminded male for adult fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 409259**

KATH blonde independent female, employed with OHAC looking for fun and laughter with likeminded nice easy going male, any age. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 407955**

TRACY slim dark haired beauty, petite, hardworking career, enjoys dancing, nights out, WLTM loving male who can make me laugh for an adult relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 409419**

SHARON very attractive British black lady, sexy size 6 looking for white male to fall in love with. Beautiful people can be lonely too. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 409263**

MID naughty forties female looking fun, thrills and discreet meets, give me a call, you won't be disappointed. Any age with own accommodation. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 409109**

ANITA very attractive black female, seeking mature white/Asian man to enjoy uncomplicated relationship with no ties. Any age, pls contact me, I'm very lonely. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 408505**

FEMALE many interests, seeks male, 40-55 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 408537**

28YR old female, seeking male with GSOH for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 408639**

MIXED raced lady, 34, widely travelled, seeking gent, 30-40 for romance. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 408429**

68YR old lady, likes gardening, meals out, days out, looking for sincere gent to share time with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 408413**

JENNY single independent attractive lady, tall and leggy, sensual and looking for very special male friend. Only genuine callers pls. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 408285**

CHRIS blue eyed blonde single female, lots of interests, loves travel, beach, nights in/out, looking for mature sincere gent for possible ltr. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 407615**

ATTRACTIVE female, young 49, 5ft 7ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, genuine, loyal, easygoing, GSOH, seeks tall, handsome male, 40-50 for fun times, friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 406135**

LITTLE bit nice and definitely a little bit naughty! Imaginative curvy blonde seeks male for kisses and cuddles. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 363428**

62YR old female, widowed, small, slim, attractive, kind, outgoing, likes meals out, dancing, holidays, nights in, seeking professional gent. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 394106**

CAROL 36, looking for older experienced gent 50-70yrs for fun times only, discretion assured and expected. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 401853**

Men seeking women

REMEMBER: Calls cost £1.53 per minute plus network extras. Texts cost £1.50 per message sent.

JEFF young 62, N/S, tall, fit, energetic, seeking new female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 413053**

JAMES, hard working single dad, late 30's seeks single mum for family days out. **Text Only 4550196**

JOHN 5ft 10ins, slim, GSOH, various interests, seeks female for friendship/relationship, 35-52. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 413107**

RETIRED male, seeking no strings adult fun and frolics, discretion assured, age/status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 413067**

TONY young looking 50, 5ft 8ins, slim, seeks slim rock chick, trendy for dates and LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 413049**

KEVIN 53, looking for a friend/partner and a lover. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412869**

NORTH Shropshire male, 67, N/S, solvent, GSOH, likes walks, travel, music, holidays, countryside, seeks N/S lady for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412867**

MAURICE gentleman, 59, gentle, kind, caring, loving, generous, seeks lady with GSOH and similar personality, slim-medium build. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412859**

Who's caught your eye?
Let them know you might be interested by sending them a WINK...
Simply Text WINK 26 to 80098

MALE seeking female companion for outings, friendship and holidays. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412705**

STEPHEN 58, good looking, likes art, travel, seeking female, 50 plus for companionship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412633**

MALCOLM 61, smoker, great personality, likes coach holidays, drives, pubs, meals out, nights out, 60's music, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412523**

TONY 52, dark hair, white male, 6ft, confident, GSOH, seeks black female. Genuine ad. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412481**

TALL 42yr old sincere male, caring, honest, loving, seeking female, 30-40 for fun, friendship and good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412483**

COUNTRY loving businessman, honest, medium build, N/S, OHAC, seeks professional, genuine, caring, honest, N/S female for loving relationship, 45-55. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412445**

JOHN, 42yrs professional genuine gent seeks caring lady to treat as a princess. **Text Only 4550195**

ALAN tall widower, 76, looking for female of similar age who enjoys meals out, holidays, walks and holidays. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412261**

ROY mid 60's, N/S, car driver, young outlook, seeks lady for friendship. West Bromwich area. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412083**

PAUL 62, seeks attractive Wolverhampton lady for discreet daytime fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 410799**

TALL slim gent, 60, seeks slim, attractive lady for no strings relationship. Discretion assured. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412227**

IAN 65, romantic, likes to wine/dine, days out, seeking younger female for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412087**

MARK fun loving, easy going, fair hair blue eyes, athletic, tanned, looking for good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411989**

FIT bubbly male, athletic, blue eyes, short fair hair, easy going, loving, GSOH, seeking female for no strings fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411901**

TALL attractive Shrewsbury male, 54, seeks attractive female for fun and excitement in the daytime. Discretion assured. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411823**

TIGER Woods lookalike, seeking pretty BBW for good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411801**

MALE 74, fit, N/S, OHAC, seeks slim lady of similar age for days out, holidays and walks. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411673**

TALL mature male, seeks younger, attractive mixed race lady for spoiling and pampering. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411505**

PHIL genuine male, 57, OHAC, looking for female, any race, status and age for no strings discreet fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411461**

Follow us on twitter @datelocally

DEE 49, divorced, handsome, fit, slim, seeks lady, any age for lasting, meaningful relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411415**

MARK 5ft 11ins, blond hair, blue eyes, slim-medium build, athletic, likes nights in/out, socialising, meals out, pubs, seeks female with similar interests and GSOH for fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411335**

SLIM attractive Asian male, GSOH, seeks likeminded discreet female for adult friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411305**

MALE 67, seeking lady 30-50 for friendship/companionship and occasional days/nights out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411293**

INTELLIGENT sincere Shropshire male, slim, young 60's, playfully assertive, seeking complimentary, responsive, feminine lady, 50-60's who enjoys music, books, the arts and countryside. **0906 500 3724 Box No: 411285**

EASY going male 45, likes sports, seeks female for relationship. **0906 500 3724 Box No: 411541**

5FT 6ins male, dark hair/eyes, glasses, likes meals out, seeks female for friendship, maybe more. **0906 500 3724 Box No: 411455**

IAN 47, 5ft 11ins, likes cinema, nights in/out, sports, socialising, GSOH seeking similar female. **0906 500 3724 Box No: 411297**

ATTRACTIVE male, seeks 100% adult fun with woman, any age/looks or status. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411253**

MALE WLTM pear shaped lady, 50-65. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411109**

PAUL 62, seeks attractive Wolverhampton lady for discreet daytime fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411099**

TRUSTWORTHY fit, active, caring, easy going male, N/S, 68, GSOH, seeks genuine lady, 59-72 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411083**

TOM 31, seeking female for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411165**

ADVENTUROUS 32yr old slim, dark haired, creative, likes music, cycling and photography, seeks likeminded female to share fun and happiness with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 352753**

60YR old male, 5ft 11ins, WLTM female, 40-60 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411097**

STEVE 63, tall, fit, energetic, N/S, seeks lady, 55-60 for friendship and who knows. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 410941**

SEAN 46, brown hair/eyes, average looks/build, loving, caring, understanding, seeks female to share good times with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 410845**

ATTRACTIVE tall, dark, professional male, broadminded, adventurous, clean, discreet, GSOH, easy going, good company, looking for lady for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 411019**

KEV 53, Stoke, seeking female for fun, romance, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 410997**

JEFF 35, GSOH, likes cinema, swimming, ice-skating, seeks special female with similar interests. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 410737**

Men seeking men

DIVORCED male, young, fit 50, generous, own business, seeks male, any nationality, 18-20 for good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412727**

45 year old gay guy, sincere, caring, honest, loving looking for a sincere gay guy 40 to 50 years old, **Text Only Mailbox Box No: 4423358**

MALE 40's, discreet, seeks black male, under 30 for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412415**

YOUNG male, 25, educated, likes arts, dogs, travel, classic cars, comedy, seeks similar older male for LTR. London/Shropshire anywhere. **Tel No: 0906 500 3724 Box No: 412463**

CUSTOMER SUPPORT
Call 0207 720 7130 Monday - Friday 10am - 4pm or email us at support@jmediauk.co.uk

CALL CHARGES*: DATING 18+ and have the bill payer's permission. 090 calls cost £1.53 per min. plus network charges. Calls from Mobiles will be considerably higher. Calls are recorded and may appear on your bill. TEXT*: Text alerts are charged at £1.50 per week. To unsubscribe to text alerts, text DATING STOP to 63333. To cancel free match alerts, text STOP to 07781474042. For full T&Cs go to www.localdates-terms.co.uk/. REPLY BY TEXT*: 80098/89990 costs £1.50 per SMS received (max 150 characters). Guaranteed to receive 1 - 4 messages for each message you send, Service only available where phone icon show. Messages are moderated. Minimum 7 messages must be sent before contact details can be exchanged. This service is not computer generated. All messages are responded to by real service users. No meetings can be guaranteed. If arranging a meeting be sure to chose a public space and do not give personal details to people you have not met. Some advertisers on this page come from our national database. To STOP text stop to 80098/89990. Service provided by No Goats Ltd. Help: 0207 720 7130. ALL SERVICES*: By texting any shortcode you consent to the owner of that shortcode sending you the occasional marketing message to opt out of receiving these send NO INFO to 80098. DATA PROTECTION: Service provided by JMedia UK Ltd, SW4 7BX, 0207 720 7130. We will collect the details you provide and may send you details of other services and events operated by us. We may pass your details onto this newspaper for marketing or PhonePayPlus for regulatory purposes. W/C 01/12/14

Local Specialists

TIPS OF THE WEEK

A&G Removals & Clearances are ready to get you on the move.

MOVING house, decluttering, clearing a property or simply got household items that you would like to turn into cash?

Then call A&G Removals & Clearances who have 19 years of experience in moving people both locally and nationwide.

Whether it be a full house move or a single item to be collected and delivered, A&G offer a prompt and reliable service. After a good response to the

opening of their used furniture shop in Bailey Street they are keen to hear from anyone with items for sale. Modern and antique furniture, collectables

or any other item will be considered.

A&G can cater for both full and part house, shed and garage clearances and are also happy to buy single items.

As well as sellable items they are also able to remove your household junk at very competitive rates, recycling as much as possible through authorised waste stations and also donating to local charity outlets.

Whether you require a house removal quote or have items for sale, A&G are happy to call at your homeand give you an exact quote or price.

A&G can be contacted on 01691 680097, 07926 995767 or visit www.removalsoswestry.co.uk Or call at the shop in Bailey Street, opposite The Works, to discuss your removal or house clearance.

Bathrooms & Kitchens

Complete
Property
Renovations

Call Steve now for a FREE no obligation quote

01691 680443 / 07970 357619 / cprchester.com

- Bathrooms, Kitchens, Plastering, Electrical Plumbing & Tiling
- From design to installation we do it all (big or small!!)
- Fully insured with over 30 years experience

NO VAT

Electrical

No VAT

cdt electrical services limited

New installations - Rewires
Repairs - Fuse board upgrades
Inspection & testing
No job too small - All work certified
Contact Phil for free no obligation quote.
enquiries@cdtelectrical.co.uk
m:07967 739472

Gardening

D.T LANDSCAPES
Garden Maintenance & Tree Surgery
IMPROVING OUTDOOR SPACES
All work guaranteed
20 years experience
Snow Clearing Available from £10
Block paving • Fencing
Paving • Gravelling • Turfing
Decking • No Job Too Small
FREE QUOTATIONS
01691 661014
07799 617911
dt.landscapes@live.com

Roofing

Andy Boyle
Roofing And Property Maintenance
Free Quotes & Advice

Slating / Tiling
Felt Flat Roofing
Pointing & Leadwork
Guttering
Traditional / PVC Facia
Exterior Painting

01691 659802 / 07536 108693

Roofing

HH

- All aspects of roofing
- Re-roofs/Flat Roofs/Fibre Glass Roofs
- New Builds
- Fascia, Soffits, Pointing *(all 10 year guarantee)*

COMPETITIVE QUOTATIONS FOR WORK OF THE HIGHEST STANDARD
10% DISCOUNT FOR OAP
Please call FREE 01952 409 872
Mobile: 07866 445720
OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE

Taxis

OSWESTRY CABS
Why pay more for door to door
Locals - Long Distance
Airports - Contracts

01691 661663

Airport Shuttle Service
Single journey to or from Oswestry

	Taxi Estate Car 4 Seats	Minibus 5 to 8 passengers
Manchester	£59.00	£82.00
Liverpool	£59.00	£82.00
Birmingham	£82.00	£110.00

Night Out Returns
Shrewsbury £50.00 - £60.00
Wrexham £45.00 - £54.00

Local Specialists

To advertise your business and reach 181,587 potential customers....
Call Carling Bates...
01952 288811
E-mail Carling at ...
carling.bates@shropshirestar.co.uk

Chronicle Recruitment & Public Notice

To advertise your vacancy to our **16,569 readers**

Telephone 01691 668095 or email marcusevans@shropshirestar.co.uk

*Source: ABC

FOURWAYS Self Drive

FULL TIME RENTAL ASSISTANT / ASSISTANT PART TIME DRIVER WHITCHURCH, SHROPSHIRE

Fourways Self Drive is a busy local car and van rental business with a reputation for first class service and quality vehicles, located in Whitchurch town centre.

We are looking for a hard working, enthusiastic person to assist in all areas of the day to day running of the operation on a full time basis. Responsibilities will include valeting, delivering and collecting vehicles and general office duties.

The successful candidate will have good communication skills and the ability to work as part of a busy team. Flexibility is essential, as is a full clean driving licence. A competent knowledge of IT and the enthusiasm to learn and develop are key.

We are also looking for a part time assistant driver to help with deliveries and collections, with hours to suit. A full, clean driving licence is essential.

Interested candidates should forward their CV and covering letter detailing salary expectations to recruitment@fvsl.co.uk or to the address below.

BVRLA www.fvsd.co.uk

Fourways Self Drive Limited, Unit 4 Bridgewater Garage, Bridgewater Street, Whitchurch, Shropshire SY13 1QJ

Shropshire Star USED CAR VIRTUAL MOTORSHOW

Hundreds of used cars to view from dealers all over the county

Contact the dealer direct – review the independent videos of almost every used car around!

Review your new car by video before you test drive!

DRIVING EXPERIENCE - COST OF OWNERSHIP - DESIGN & BUILD - RANGE
• Video reviews • Dealership information
• Latest manufacturer offers
shropshirestar.com/drivetime

Rybrook backs rugby club

Oswestry Rugby Club has announced a sponsorship deal with a leading county car dealership.

BMW specialists Rybrook Shrewsbury have confirmed their backing for the club as part of its continued commitment to the Shropshire community.

Gareth Thomas, head of business at Rybrook Shrewsbury, said that the business was pleased to be able to become the new shirt and club sponsor. He said: "Oswestry Rugby Club is a natural partner for us as we are constantly looking to forge stronger, more personal relationships with the county's local communities.

"Clearly this is a club with ambition and that mirrors our values and dynamic approach to business.

"For many years BMW has supported rugby at national levels and the link with Oswestry recognises the playing diversity, social catchment and ambitions of grass roots rugby in north Shropshire."

Growth

The sponsorship deal supports the continued growth of the club, which this year successfully gained access to the England RFU social funding award, meaning significant investment in facilities.

Don Howell, chairman of Oswestry Rugby Club, said: "We welcome the generous support of Rybrook Shrewsbury.

"The club has clear targets this season as we sit at the top of Division 2, South Lancashire & Cheshire, so this partnership underpins our aspirations, not just for the thousands of supporters who really make this club special, but for people of Oswestry too.

"We expect the partnership to strengthen as England prepares to embrace the 2015 Rugby World Cup which will put the sport in in the spotlight across the world."

Pictured is Rybrook Shrewsbury sales manager Matt Aston with rugby club chairman Don Howell.

Arthurs team passes test

Award-winning Vauxhall dealer Arthurs of Oswestry and Newtown announce that they have signed up for the Finance Conduct Authority approval.

Operations Manager Steve Hughes said the new organisation had been set up to 'promote innovation and healthy competition' between financial services firms.

"They have set high standards for companies who offer motor finance and it is important to Arthurs that we fully explain finance packages available to customers prior to them buy their new or used car.

Specialist

"As part of this commitment Arthurs has trained all its sales team to be approved by the specialist automotive finance authority. The test is designed to help the sales team to boost their car finance knowledge and ensure that car buyers are guided to the best product for their needs and budget.

"The Specialist Automotive Finance test was extremely tough," said Steve, "and I am fully confident the team is now extremely well equipped to offer the best financial advice to customers buying a new or used car."

He believes that the sales team from Arthurs Vauxhall is one of the first car dealers to have all their sales consultants Specialist Automotive Finance approved, adding: "This underlines Arthurs commitment to being honest and fair with all customers."

Pictured: Arthurs sales consultant Adam Dean with his Special Automotive Finance certificate.

SAVE £8 PER MONTH
WITH A DIGITAL
SUBSCRIPTION

Get the Shropshire Star for **just £4.99** per month by signing up for an online digital subscription. You can now read your favourite paper via iPad, iPhone, Android, Kindle Fire and desktop. Digital subscribers get the latest edition within minutes of publication, with state of the art web features such as video reports. If you trial the service on a digital device, you even get **14 days for FREE**.

FIND OUT MORE AT
WWW.SHROPSHIRESTAR.COM/DIGITAL-EDITIONS

App Store
Google play
amazon

*Digital subscription £4.99, compared with monthly direct debit print subscription £13.00.
Total annual saving £96.12

Shropshire STAR

H. Ballard & Son (Motors)

Union Street & Brook Street, Welshpool. **Telephone 01938 553152/552298**
KIA AND RENAULT SPECIALISTS - THE PEOPLE THAT CARE MORE - TOW BAR FITTING CENTRE

SALES > SERVICE > QUALITY > RELIABILITY
If the vehicle you require is not listed try our unique sourcing system

Diesel Selection

14 (14)	**KIA CEED 2 1.6 CRDi ECODYNAMIC,** Track Red, As New.	£13,950
13 (13)	**KIA RIO 1.4 Ecodynamic 2.** 5dr. Electric blue	£11,850
13(13)	**PEUGEOT 208 1.6 E-HDi ALLURE,** 3-Dr, Virtual Blue	£10,450
11 (61)	**KIA CEE'D 1.6 CRDi** Estate. Silver	WAS £13,950 **NOW £12,750**
11 (61)	**NISSAN JUKE 1.5 DCi,** Acenta Black	£9,975
11 (11)	**VAUXHALL ASTRA 2.0 CDTi SRi** 6,000 miles, £30 Road Tax	£12,950
10 (10)	**BMW 320d M-SPORT TOURER Business Edition,** Black	£9,950
10 (10)	**RENAULT MEGANE 1.5 DCi EXPRESSION** Silver	£8,650
10 (59)	**KIA CEE'D 3 1.6 CRDI** Estate Phantom Black, Low Mileage	£8,650
09 (59)	**SUZUKI SWIFT 1.3 DDi S** 5-Dr, Orange	DUE IN
09 (09)	**FORD FOCUS 1.6 TDCI ZETEC** Chill Silver	£7,950
09 (09)	**PEUGEOT 308 S 1.6 HDi Estate.** Silver	£7,850
09 (09)	**VAUXHALL CORSA 1.3 CDTi** Design Silver	£6,950
09 (09)	**VAUXHALL CORSA 1.7 CDTi DESIGN** 5-dr. Silver,	£6,750
08 (58)	**VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.3 CDTI BREEZE** Steel Blue	£4,500
08 (58)	**VOLKSWAGEN JETTA 2.0 TDI SPORT,** Lovely Condition,	£7,850
08 (08)	**FORD FOCUS 1.8 TDCI ZETEC,** Metallic Green	£6,950
08 (08)	**VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 1.9 TDI MATCH,** Reflex Silver	£7,850
07 (57)	**MINI COOPER 1.6 D** Chilli Red / Chequered Roof	£8,950
07 (07)	**VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 1.9 TDi SPORT.** Shadow Blue	DUE IN
07 (07)	**VOLKSWAGEN TOURAN 1.9Tdi S.** Shadow Blue, 7 Seats	£7,850
04 (04)	**PEUGEOT PARTNER 1.9 QUIKSILVER,** Nice Condition	DUE IN

Petrol Selection

13 (13)	**KIA RIO 2 1.4** in Blaze Red	£9,975
12 (12)	**KIA PICANTO 1.0 AIR,** Bright Silver	£7,450
11 (62)	**VOLKSWAGEN MOVE UP!** 5-Dr in Red	£6,950
11 (11)	**HONDA JAZZ 1.4 ES** 5-dr, Grey, 3,700 miles	£9,650
10 (10)	**VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.4 Turbo**, Black	WAS £11,450 **NOW £10,450**
10 (10)	**VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 SRi** Technical Grey	WAS £11,650 **NOW £10,650**
10 (10)	**NEW RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE** Tom Tom, 6,000 miles	WAS £10,250 **NOW £9,250**
10 (59)	**TOYOTA YARIS 1.3 VVTi** 5-dr. Grey	£7,450
09 (59)	**KIA PICANTO 2 1.1,** ONLY 7,000 miles, Black	£5,450
09 (59)	**HYUNDAI i10 1.1 ES,** 5-dr, Blue, 11,000 miles	£5,650
09 (59)	**HYUNDAI i10 1.1 ES,** 5-dr Red, 16,000miles	£5,450
09 (59)	**FIAT PANDA ACTIVE Eco.** Silver	£4,950
08 (58)	**HYUNDAI MATRIX 1.8 GSi** Black	£3,650
08 (58)	**NISSAN QASHQAI 1.6** ACENTA Cayman Blue	£8,750
08 (08)	**VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 CLUB,** 5-dr, Metro Blue	£4,850
08 (57)	**TOYOTA AYGO** Platinum	£3,950
04 (54)	**FORD FIESTA 1.4 FLAME** 5dr Blue	£3,950
07 (07)	**FORD KA 70 STYLE** Silver	£5,250
06 (56)	**PEUGEOT 307 1.6 S,** 5dr, Blue	£2,450
06 (56)	**SUZUKI SWIFT 1.5 GLX** 5-dr, Kashmir Blue	£5,250
06 (56)	**PEUGEOT 207 SE 16v** 5-dr. Silver Grey 9,000 miles	£7,450
05 (55)	**RENAULT CLIO 1.2 DYNAMIQUE** 5-Dr in Flame Red	DUE IN
05 (55)	**FORD FIESTA 2.0 ST.** Black	DUE IN
04 (04)	**AUDI A3 2.0 FSi SPORT** Red	£5,850
04 (04)	**MINI ONE 1.6** 3-dr (Pepper Pack). Blue, Immaculate	£4,650

4x4 Selection

11 (11)	**KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRDi KX-3 AWD,** Black	£15,850
10 (10)	**KIA SPORTAGE 2.0CRDi XS 4WD** Phantom Black,	£10,450
08 (58)	**LANDROVER FREELANDER 2 TD4 GS,** Black	£12,450
08 (58)	**KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRDi XS**	£10,850
08 (08)	**TOYOTA RAV4 2.0 XT-3** Black,	£8,950
07 (57)	**SUZUKI GRAND VITARA 1.6 VVTi+** 3-dr, Red	£6,750
07 (57)	**KIA SORENTO 2.5 CRDi XS,** Silver	£9,850
07 (07)	**SUZUKI JIMNY JLX+** Black/Grey	£5,950
07 (07)	**LANDROVER FREELANDER 2 2.2 TD4 GS**, Santorini Black	£11,250
06 (55)	**LAND ROVER FREELANDER 2.0 TD4 FREESTYLE** 3-dr	£5,650
05 (05)	**SUZUKI JIMNY 1.3 JLX WTS** Bright Red	£4,250

Automatics

11 (61)	**VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4 SE AUTOMATIC,** 11,000 Miles	£6,850
11 (61)	**KIA PICANTO 2 1.25 AUTOMATIC,** Blaze Red, 6,000 miles	£7,850
04 (04)	**JAGUAR S-TYPE 2.7 SPORT DIESEL AUTOMATIC**	£2,000

LOW RATE FINANCE PACKAGE AVAILABLE

View our stock: www.ballardmotors.co.uk

RMI

KC JONES CAR SALES

Oswald Road, Oswestry, Shropshire SY11 1RB

Tel: 01691 238987

Web: kcjonescarsales.co.uk OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

2009 59 HONDA ACCORD 2.2 CDTi ES GT Estate Automatic. 51,000 miles, Metallic Grey, FSH **£10,499**

2011 11 FORD FIESTA ZETEC 1.6 TDCi 5 Door, Bright Blue, 21,000 miles, £20 a Year Road Tax **£8,499**

2007 57 RENAULT KANGOO 1.2 DYNAMIQUE WHEEL CHAIR ACCESS VAN 24,000 miles, electric winch, Metallic Blue **£3499**

2007 57 RENAULT KANGOO 1.2 DYNAMIQUE WHEEL CHAIR ACCESS VAN 24,000 miles, electric winch, Metallic Blue **£3499**

2012 62 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.2D PURE Manual, in White, leather, 36,000 miles, 1 owner, FSH **£25,999**

2008 58 NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 2.0 PETROL Manual, Metallic Silver, Leather, Panoramic Roof, 45,000 miles, FSH **£7,999**

2010 10 VW CADDY C20 1.9 TDi VAN Air Con, Electric Windows, No VAT **£6,499**

2010 10 LANDROVER DISCOVERY 4 3.0 TDV6 HSE Auto 7 seater, Sat Nav, leather, Metallic Silver, 55,000 miles **£28,999**

2011 61 TOYOTA HILUX INVINCIBLE 3.0 D4D Double Cab Manual. Metallic Black, 1 Owner, Only 41,000 miles, FSH **£14,499 +VAT**

2007 07 LAND ROVER DISCOVERY 3 TDV6 GS Auto. Metallic Black, full Black leather, Privacy glass, Chrome pack, Side bars, 62,000 miles, FSH **£15,499**

2010 10	**AUDI A5 3.0 TDi QUATTRO S-LINE** Coupe 6-speed Manual. Bright Red, Full Leather, FSH, 48,000 miles	SOLD
2011 61	**AUDI A3 S-LINE 2.0 TDi 170bhp 3-Door,** Manual, Metallic Black, Sat Nav, Bose Half Leather Heated Seats, 50,000 miles, FSH	SOLD
2011 61	**AUDI A3 2.0 TDi Sportback Black Edition** Manual. White, Half Leather Bose, 30,000 miles, 1 Owner	£16,499
2011 11	**AUDI A1 S-LINE 1.6 TDi** 3-dr, Silver Met, 33,000 miles, FSH, £30 Road Tax	£12,499
2010 10	**BMW 118d ES** 5-door. Manual, Red, 62,000 miles, £30,000 a year road tax, FSH	£9,499
2008 08	**BMW 116i SE** 5-door, Manual, Metallic Silver, 58,000 miles, FSH	£7,499
2011 11	**CHEVROLET LACETTI ESTATE 1.8**, Automatic, 1 Owner	£4,999
2007 57	**CITROEN C4 1.6 HDi** Hatchback Metallic Blue, 71,000 miles	£3,499
2009 59	**CITROEN C4 VTR+ HDi** 5-door. Red, 60,200 miles	£5,799
2004 54	**CITROEN C2 GT 1.6** 3-door. Metallic Silver, 75,000 miles	£2,999
2011 11	**CITROEN C3 PICASSO 1.6 VTR+ HDi.** Blue Metallic, 20,000 miles, 1 Owner, £30 a Year Road Tax	£7,999
2011 11	**CITROEN C3 PICASSO 1.6 HDi VTR+** 5-door, Blue Metallic, One Owner, FSH, 19,000 miles, £30 a year tax	£7,999
2009 09	**FIAT BRAVO 1.4** 5-door, Dynamique, Manual, 66,000 miles	£4,299
2008 08	**FORD FOCUS 1.8 ZETEC** Metallic Blue, Manual, 37,000 miles, FSH	£5,499
2011 11	**FORD FIESTA ZETEC 1.6 TDCi** 5 Door, Bright Blue, 21,000 miles, £20 a Year Road Tax	£8,499
2010 60	**FORD FIESTA 1.4 TDCi** 3-door, Bright Red, 40,000 miles, Cheap Tax, FSH, 1 Owner	£6,999
2008 08	**FORD FIESTA 1.2 ZETEC** 3-door. Metallic Red, Manual, 63,000 miles	£3,999
2008 08	**FORD FIESTA 1.4** 3-door. Metallic Blue, 49,000 miles	£3,999
2006 55	**FORD FOCUS C-MAX ZTEC 1.8 TDCi.** Blue Metallic, Alloy Wheels, Air Con	£3,499
2009 59	**FORD KA 1.3 ZETEC** 3-door. Metallic Black, 52,000 miles	£4,499
2009 59	**HONDA ACCORD 2.2 CDTi ES GT** Estate Automatic. 51,000 miles, Metallic Grey, FSH	£10,499
2006 06	**HONDA CRV 2.2 CDTi Sport 4x4.** Metallic Blue, Alloys	£4,999
2010 60	**HYUNDAI 130 PREMIUM 1.6 CRDi** Estate Manual, Metallic Blue, 33,000 miles, 1 owner, FSH	£8,499
2008 58	**HYUNDAI GETZ** 5-door Manual. Metallic Blue, 52,000 miles	£3,499
2007 57	**KIA SPORTAGE 2.0** 4x4 XS Manual, Metallic Blue, 53,000 miles	£5,499
2007 07	**LAND ROVER DISCOVERY 3 TDV6 GS AUTO.** Metallic Black, full Black leather, Privacy glass, Chrome pack, Side bars, 62,000 miles, FSH	£15,499
2008 08	**LAND ROVER DISCOVERY 3 TDV6 GS AUTOMATIC.** Metallic Grey, 52,000 miles, FSH	£16,999
2010 10	**LANDROVER DISCOVERY 4 3.0 TDV6 HSE Auto** 7 seater, Sat Nav, leather, Metallic Silver, 55,000 miles	£28,999
2012 62	**LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.2D PURE MANUAL**, in White, leather, 36,000 miles, 1 owner, FSH	£25,999
2010 10	**LANDROVER FREELANDER TD4 GS** 6-speed manual, in Grey Metallic, 48,000 miles, Climate Control, Cruise Control, Bluetooth, Auto Lights	£13,999
2011 11	**NISSAN JUKE ACCENTA 1.6** 5-door with Premium Pack. White, 1 Owner, 28,000 miles, Sat Nav, FSH	£10,999
2011 61	**NISSAN QASQUAI +2 N-Tec** 7 Seater, Diesel, Manual. In White, 1 Owner, 41,000 miles, FSH	£13,499
2008 58	**NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 2.0 PETROL** Manual, Metallic Silver, Leather, Panoramic Roof, 45,000 miles, FSH	£7,999
2008 58	**PEUGEOT 308S 1.6 HDi SW ESTATE 110 PS** Silver Metallic, Air Conditioning, Roof Rails	£5,499
2006 06	**PEUGEOT 107 1.0 URBAN** 3-door. Metallic Black, 23,000 miles, FSH	£3,499
2004 04	**PEUGEOT 206 S 1.4** 5-door. Grey Metallic, 39,000 miles	£2,499
2007 57	**RENAULT KANGOO 1.2 DYNAMIQUE** WHEEL CHAIR ACCESS VAN 24,000 miles, electric winch, Metallic Blue	£3,499
2010 10	**RENAULT MEGANE 1.6** 5-door. Blue, 1 Owner, 21,000 miles	£6,999
2009 59	**RENAULT TWINGO 1.2 FREEWAY** 3-door, Red, 2 Owners, Only 28,600 miles, Service History	£3,999
2005 55	**SEAT ALTEA 1.6** 5-door. Manual, Metallic Red, 51,000 miles	£3,999
2010 10	**SEAT IBIZA 1.6 SPORT DSG** 3-door, Red, 62,000 miles	£5,999
2005 55	**SMART CITY CABRIOLET** 2 Seater, Metallic Silver, 50,000 miles	£3,999
2011 61	**TOYOTA HILUX INVINCIBLE 3.0 D4D** Double Cab Manual. Metallic Black, 1 Owner, Only 41,000 miles, FSH	£13,499 +VAT
2007 57	**TOYOTA YARIS T3 D-4D** 5-door diesel. Red, Alloy Wheels, 28,000 miles, £30 a Year Road Tax	£4,999
2009 59	**VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.8 DESIGN** 5-door. Metallic Silver, 63,000 miles, FSH	£5,499
2011 11	**VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 2.0 CDTi EXCLUSIVE** 5-door. Silver Metallic, 34,000 miles, One Owner, FSH	£8,999
2009 09	**VAUXHALL INSIGNIA 1.8 EXCLUSIVE** 5-dr, Blue Metallic, 43,000 miles	£5,999
2013 13	**VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 1.6 TDi BLUEMOTION,** Manual, Bright Red, One Owner, 26,000 miles	£11,999
2006 56	**VOLKSWAGEN POLO 1.2E** 3-door. Blue, 52,800 miles, FSH	SOLD
2007 07	**VOLKSWAGEN FOX 1.2** 3-door. Silver Metallic, 76,000 miles	£2,999
2010 10	**VW CADDY C20 1.9 TDi VAN** Air Con, Electric Windows, No VAT	£6,499

CARS BOUGHT FOR CASH!

We will buy your vehicle. Call or phone for a free valuation • All vehicles subject to a HPI check

2005 55 SMART CITY CABRIOLET 2 Seater, Metallic Silver, 50,000 miles **£3999**

2011 11 NISSAN JUKE ACCENTA 1.6 5-door with Premium Pack. White, 1 Owner, 28,000 miles, Sat Nav, FSH **£10,999**

2008 08 LAND ROVER DISCOVERY 3 TDV6 GS Automatic. Metallic Grey, 52,000 miles, FSH **£16,999**

2011 61 AUDI A3 S-Line 2.0 TDi 170bhp 3-door, Manual. Metallic Black, Sat Nav, Bose Half Leather Heated Seats, 50,000 miles, FSH **£14,499**

2011 61 AUDI A3 2.0 TDi Sportback Black Edition Manual. White, Half Leather Bose, 30,000 miles, 1 Owner **£16,499**

2010 10 BMW 118d ES 5-door. Manual, Red, 62,000 miles, £30,000 a year road tax, FSH **£9499**

2011 11AUDI A1 S-LINE 1.6 TDi 3-dr, Silver Met, 33,000 miles, FSH, £30 Road Tax **£12,499**

2006 06 PEUGEOT 107 1.0 URBAN 3-door. Metallic Black, 23,000 miles, FSH **£3499**

2010 10 AUDI A5 3.0 TDi QUATTRO S-Line Coupe 6-speed Manual. Bright Red, full leather, FSH, 48,000 miles **£19,999**

2008 08 BMW 116i SE 5-door, Manual, Metallic Silver, 58,000 miles, FSH **£7,499**

Oswestry & Border Chronicle Thursday, December 25, 2014

Ingredients for a perfect recipe

By Matt Joy

No gap is left unfilled in the Porsche range, which is why the 911 GTS has been introduced. But is it a model too far for a comprehensive range?

At first glance, the 911 GTS might look very familiar, but this particular variant is all about the details. In the grand hierarchy, the GTS sits between the quickest 'normal' variant – the Carrera S – and the precision track instrument that is the GT3. Not only does the GTS fill this gap for buyers who want something a little madder but not bonkers, it also bridges a significant price void too.

So your GTS comes with a more powerful 3.8-litre engine, unique suspension tuning, the choice of two or four-wheel-drive, coupe or convertible, Turbo-look front spoiler, gorgeous centre-lock wheels and the wider body.

Added together, these additions would cost more from the options list, so you're getting a little something for nothing.

Balanced

Although the basic shape is the same, the 911's looks depend very much on the model you choose. The GTS has that bigger Turbo front bumper with bigger scoops which makes it look more aggressive, but this is balanced by the wider body at the rear. Add in those beautiful centre-lock alloy wheels and, depending on the colour, it undoubtedly looks superb.

A Carrera S looks a little more pure, but it's less fussy than the full-on Turbo.

The GTS badge also has kudos of its own amongst 911 fans; it's not just another special edition and demands respect.

The 911 in any guise is still a relatively compact car and sticks with the so-called 2+2 arrangement. That means two proper seats in the front and occasional seats in the rear, although the GTS does give you the option to delete the rear seats if you wish.

It's the front seats you want to be in of course, and you get leather-trimmed sports seats as standard that are very comfortable and supportive.

Being rear-engined, the boot is in the front, but it's actually quite spacious and the space is a sensible shape. Storage space inside is a little more tight however.

The key mechanical changes to the GTS make themselves felt as soon as you drive away. With a unique suspension tune and one that is a little stiffer than the Carrera S, the GTS is clearly more focussed. However, the standard-fit Porsche Active Suspension Management (PASM) means you can dial up three different suspension settings to suit the conditions. That means it's still capable of being used every day without causing you grief.

But it's when it is being stretched that the GTS comes in to its own.

The stats show it is more powerful and faster than a Carrera S, but, as the driver, all you know is that it is a sensationally quick car. The engine crackles away (helped by the standard sports exhaust) as the revs rise and it feels so torquey and unburstable you can rev it hard or make it slog.

When driven hard the GTS' class shows; sharp and communicative steering, unshakeable brakes and beautiful poise. It's hard to want for anything more.

All versions of the GTS bar the four-wheel-drive Cabriolet check in under £100,000, which is still a lot of money. But compared to the Carrera S, the amount of standard kit added for the modest price increase is well worth it; it's also significantly cheaper than the more desirable but harder to live with GT3.

There are plenty of people out there who want to buy a 911 or are about to, so there's no shortage of potential. However with the range now encompassing 12 models before you even get to the Turbos and the GT3, you could argue that there's too much choice.

TESTED

Porsche 911 GTS, £91,098
Engine: 3.8-litre unit producing 424bhp and lb/ft of torque
Transmission: Seven-speed dual-clutch gearbox driving the rear wheels
Performance: Top speed 189mph, 0-62mph in 4.0 seconds
Economy: 32.5mpg combined
Emissions: 202g/km of CO2

But the GTS is the sweet spot in the range; it's fast without being silly, easy to drive yet fun to drive hard and looks great without lurching into overkill.

This car summed up in a single word: Crafted.

If this car was a . . . meal, it would be ratatouille; just the right ingredients blended to perfection.

Used car buyers are spending too much

Used car buyers are spending over £1,500 more than they need to by choosing industry-recommended models rather than shopping around for similar models which are cheaper to run, according to new research.

A recent study, carried out by independent car information experts CAP Automotive, compared the winners of What Car's Used Car of the Year 2014, with similar models and specifications, to find the lowest overall cost based on three years of motoring.

It reveals that consumers can save up to 10 per cent of the total cost of the car, including depreciation and fuel costs, by doing their research.

Drivers rushing to buy the 'Fun Car of the Year', the Mazda MX-5 Convertible 2.0i Sport Tech, could save up to £1,650 (10 per cent of the value) by buying a Mazda – MX-5 Convertible 1.8i SE.

Similarly, customers looking to buy the top small car, a Ford Fiesta could save £602 (6 per cent) on the total cost of motoring by choosing a Studio over a Zetec model. Buyers of the top Large SUV, a Volvo XC90, could save £1523 (7 per cent), by opting for an Active Premium 5 door.

Biggest savings on the Used Cars of the Year:

1. Fun Car – Mazda Mx-5 2.0 Sport '09/09 – £1654
2. Large SUV – Volvo XC90 2.4 D5 SE Lux '10/60 – £15233.
3. Executive Car – Lexus IS IS220d SE '10/10 – £1476
4. MPVs – Citroën Grand C4 Picasso 1.6 HDi VTR+ '10/10 – £810
5. Estate Car – Ford Mondeo Estate 2.0 TDCi 140 Zetec '10/10 – £636

CAP's retail and consumer expert, Philip Nothard, said: "Consumers who put a little extra time into the car buying process, and understanding the performance of different models, can make considerable savings.

"It's important to check the figures when buying used cars very carefully before assuming you're making the best choice.

"To really know whether they're getting the best deal for the total cost of motoring, buyers need to look at not only fuel consumption but also depreciation."

Two cars named by What Car? which do provide the lowest cost of monitoring are the Luxury Used Car of the Year and Open-top Used Car of the Year.

The winning luxury car, the Jaguar XJ 3.0D V6 Luxury '11/11 saved buyers £3705 compared to the highest specification model.

The winning open-top car, the BMW 3 Series Convertible 320d SE '09/09, saved buyers £3968 compared to other similar models.

Welsh Walls Car Sales
Part of E M Hughes Auto Centre
WWW.WELSHWALLSCARSALES.CO.UK

59 FOCUS 1.6 TITANIUM TDCI, 5 DOOR, BLUE, AIR CON., CRUISE CONTROL SERVICE HISTORY - £30 ROAD TAX, VAT QUALIFYING 68K .. £6,795
58 FIESTA TDCI STYLE PLUS, NEW SHAPE, 5 DR., LIGHT BLUE, AIR CON., SERVICE HISTORY, £20 ROAD TAX 61K £5,495
60 PEUGEOT 207 S,1.4, 5 DOOR, BLACK, AIR CON, ELEC. WINDOWS, SERVICE HIST 36K £5,295
54 MINI COOPER 1.6, SILVER-BLACK ROOF, ONE OWNDER, FULL SERV. HIST. 21K £4,995
57 FIESTA GHIA 16V 1.4 SILVER, LEATHER SEATS, AIR CON, SERVICE HISTORY 35K £4,250
57 FIESTA GHIA 16V 1.4 BLACK, LEATHER SEATS, AIR CON, FULL SERVICE HIST. 40K £4,250
08 VW POLO E, 3 DOOR, SILVER, SERVICE HISTORY 54K £4,375
09 PEUG.207 VERVE 1.4 5 DR., BLUE, CD, AIR CON., ALLOY WHEELS, SERV. HIST. 49K £4,450
57 SEAT IBIZA FORMULA SPORT 1.4, SILVER, SERVICE HISTORY 62K .. £3,995
07 FIESTA ST, 2LT., 3 DOOR, BLUE, ALLOY WHEELS, AIR CON., SERVICE HISTORY 70K £3,995
08 PEUGEOT 207 URBAN, RED, ELEC. WINDOWS, FULL SERVICE HISTORY 54K £3,750
07 CLIO 1.4 16 VALVE DYNAMIQUE 5 DOOR, RED, ALLOY WHEELS, F.S.H 57K £3,695
54 HONDA CIVIC VTEC SE 1.6, LIGHT GREEN, AIR CON., ALLOY WHEELS, F.S.H. 60K £2,995
04 FIESTA 1.4 TDCI 5 DOOR, BLACK, ALLOY WHEELS, JUST HAD A FULL SERDVICE £30 ROAD TAX 92K £2,495

PART EXCHANGE TO CLEAR

55 FOCUS 1.6 LX, BLUE, 5 DOOR, ALLOY WHEELS 91K £2,495
52 PEUGEOT 206 SW ESTATE 1.1 XL, RED, NEW CAMBELT, CENT.LOCK., PAS, SERVICED 63K £1,650
02 FOCUS 1.6 LX, GREEN, 5 DOOR 88K £1,495

NEW IN STOCK

08 PEUG. 207 SPORT 1.6 HDI 110 BHP, BLACK, 5 DR., AIR CON, ALLOY WHEELS, SERV HIST 58K £4,995
57 PEUG. 308 SPORT 1.6 HDI 110 BHP, SILVER, 5 DR., AIR CON. CLIMATE CON., F.S.H. 56K £4,995
08 TOYOTA AURIS 1.6 TR VVT-I, GREY, 5 DOOR, ALLOY WHEELS, AIR CON., PARK.SENSORS, SERVICE HISTORY, 66K £4,675
61 TOYOTA AYGO GO VVT-I, GREY, 5 DOOR, BUILT IN TOMTOM, AIR CON. ALLOY WHEELS, 43K F.S.H, £20 ROAD TAX £5,195

COMMERCIALS PLUS VAT

11 VOLKSWAGEN CADDY C20 TDI 102, MET. BLUE, SIDE DOOR, CD PLAYER, F.S.H 21K £8,395
60 TRANSIT 280 SWB STD. ROOF, WHITE, FULL SERVICE HISTORY 48K £8,375
10 TRANSIT T280, WHITE, AIR CON, SLIDING DOOR, SERVICE HISTORY 50K £7,995
60 VAUXHALL VIVARO 2900 CDTI LWB, WHITE, SIDE DOOR, SERVICED 44K £7,850
60 CITROEN DISPATCH LWB HDI(YEAR 2011) WHITE, TWIN SIDE DOORS, ROOF RACK SERVICED, ONE OWNER, SERVICED 45K ... £7,250
10 PEUGEOT PARTNER 850 S HDI, WHITE, SLIDING DOOR, ONE OWNER, SERVICED 51K £5,675
06 TRANSIT 350 LWB HIGH TOP, WHITE, MESSING VAN, FULL SERVICE HISTORY 67K £4,995
59 PEUGEOT BIPPER HDI S, WHITE, SIDE DOOR, ELECTRIC WINDOWS, F.S.H 77K £3,995
06 VAUXHALL COMBO 1.3 CDTI, WHITE, SERVICE HISTORY 71K £2,795

PART EX AND FINANCE AVAILABLE SUBJECT TO STATUS.
WE BUY CARS & VANS FOR CASH

Welsh Walls Oswestry SY11 1aw Tel: 01691 655123 /07989612871
www.shropshirestar.com/drivetime

ROGER EATON CARS

2011 11 AUDI A6 S LINE TDI 170 BHP IN MET GREY, LEATHER, SAT NAV, 66,000 MILES £13995
2011 61 FORD KA 1.3 ZETEC 3DR IN BLACK, 10,000 MILES £6250
2011 61 TOYOTA YARIS 1.33 VVTI T SPIRIT 5DR IN SILVER, WITH NAV, 5,500 MILES £7495
2009 59 CITROEN C5 ESTATE HDI EXCLUSIVE IN BLUE, 50,000 MILES £7995
2008 58 MERCEDES B CLASS 200CDI AUTO IN BLACK, BLACK LEATHER, HEATED SEATS, ACC, C/C, AUTO LIGHTS, AUTO WASH, BLUETOOTH £9995
2008 08 SAAB 93 VECTOR SPORT TDI 1.9 150 BHP IN SNOW SILVER, 49,000 MILES, SH £5995
2008 57 TOYOTA AVENSIS D4D TR DIESEL ESTATE IN GREY MET, SAT NAV, AC, ALLOYS, FULL HISTORY, 72,000 MILES £6495
2007 57 PEUGEOT 207 GT 3DR IN RED, PANORAMIC ROOF, 56,000 MILES £4495
2007 57 AUDI A3 TDI S LINE 3DR IN MET BLACK, BLACK LEATHER, SERVICE HISTORY £6495
2007 57 VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.8 VVTI DESIGN AUTOMATIC, 59,000 MILES £3495
2007 FORD FIESTA 1.25 3DR STYLE, IN BLACK, 72,000 MILES £2995
2007 07 FORD FOCUS CC 3 MRT IN BLUE, LEATHER, 37,000 MILES £6995
2006 FORD MONDEO 1.8 ZETEC AUTOMATIC, IN GREY, 87,000 MILES £2995
2006 56 MERCEDES 320ML 24,000 MILES, SAT NAV, HALF LEATHER £16995
2006 56 HONDA JAZZ 1.4 SE AUTOMATIC, A/C, ALLOYS, SILVER, 18,500 MILES £4995
2006 06 FORD MONDEO LX TDCI ESTATE IN SILVER £2995
2006 06 MINI COOPER CABRIOLET IN MET BLUE, BLUE LEATHER, A/C, ALLOYS £5750
2006 06 ASTON MARTIN V8 VANTAGE IN SILVER, GREY LEATHER, SAT NAV, BLUETOOTH £34995
2005 55 MERCEDES E320 CDI IN SILVER, ACC, LEATHER, FSH £6495
2005 55 MERCEDES VITO 2.2 TD LWB VAN WITH 5 SEATS £4495
2005 05 MG TF 1.8 IN MET GREY, 58,000 MILES £2995
2005 05 VOLVO XC90 SE IN BLACK, 7 SEATS, LPG, 80,000 MILES, S/H £7495
2005 05 BMW 318 SE COUPE IN BLUE, 55000 MILES £4495
2004 54 HYUNDAI TUSCON 2.0 GSI IN BLACK, 58000MILES £2995
2004 54 VAUXHALL TIGRA1.4 SPORT IN RED, AIR/CON, ALLOYS £2495
2004 04 FORD STREETKA IN RED, LEATHER, ALLOYS £2995
2001 51 MERCEDES C200 K 4DR IN RED, 54,000 MILES £3250

Rockland Garage, Pant, Oswestry, Shropshire SY10 9QE
Telephone 01691 839555
Mobile 07843 339 465
E-mail: sales@rogereatoncars.com

P & G VEHICLE REPAIRS
Cargotec Industrial Park, Elson, Ellesmere SY12 9JW
TYRES EXHAUSTS BATTERIES
DIAGNOSTICS
SERVICING
REPAIRS
MOT
AIR CONDITIONING SERVICE FROM £40
01691 622849
www.pandgvehiclerepairs.co.uk

You'll love the increased business!

Contact the Sales Team on 01691 668 095/090/092

Nothing better for off-road

By Graham Breeze

The latest Toyota Land Cruiser is built of strong stuff and will do just about anything you ask – but there's a price to pay.

The Land Cruiser is backed by over 60 years of all-wheel-drive engineering and lives up to its reputation for toughness and go-anywhere ability. But you get what you pay for and the model on test would cost a hefty £55,020.

The Invincible with a four cylinder diesel, three litre engine and full-time four wheel drive came with a five speed automatic gearbox and checked in at £52,960 but a safety pack and metallic paint pushed the price up another £2,000.

It's hard not to be impressed by the sturdy looks and impressive cabin though and if you've got that sort of disposable cash the Land Cruiser is a pretty good alternative in competitive sector.

You get the feeling that the Land Cruiser is happier off-road and it's probably not as agile as some of the competition on-road and is a nightmare to park on busy streets.

It has a low ratio gearbox and lockable centre differential for improved traction.

But the test car was completely at home on the motorway and a pleasure to take on a long journey. There's a fair amount of lean in bends and the car does bounce around on rough surfaces though.

You need to be pretty mobile to even get in and out because there's a high driving position, which means visibility is great when behind the wheel. A superb rear-view camera is a real bonus for reversing into those tight spaces – you need all the help you can get.

It's a practical car too and is highly adaptable from one to seven seats. For example when seating four, the middle seat of the second row can be stowed to allow more elbow room.

The blind spot warning system is a real bonus with a monitoring system in place when you indicate to change lanes using radars in the door mirrors. If it senses a car a symbol flashes in the door mirror, changing to an audible warning if you get too close.

The Land Cruiser is a safe option with seven airbags, active front head restraints and cruise control. And you won't break in easily either with deadlocks, an alarm system and glass break sensors meaning the model is a secure as it gets.

You get hill-start control, downhill assist control, limited slip differential, 4-wheel active height control, crawl control, multi-terrain options and smart energy stop-start function.

'A superb rear-view camera is a real bonus for reversing into those tight spaces – you need all the help you can get.'

There's dusk sensing headlights, rain-sensing wipers, auto-dimming rear-view mirror along with front and rear parking sensors.

Rear seat passengers aren't forgotten with an entertainment system, heated seats and individual climate controls.

Cheaper models in the range get climate control, alloy wheels and Bluetooth but expect to pay a premium if you want leather, Sat-Nav or Bluetooth connectivity.

The test model had a top speed of 109mph and reached 62mph in 11seconds. Fuel consumption reflects the size with 34.9mpg on the combined cycle and C02 emissions are high at 213g/km.

The Land Cruiser would not be my first choice in this sector but if you need to use the vehicle to it's full off-road capacity you won't find anything better.

Amazing deals on 64 Reg Cars!

Established Est. 1994 MOTORING FOR LIFE stoneacre.co.uk

64 Reg Fiat 500 1.2 Pop 3dr (Start Stop)

£139 deposit & £139 per month

Finance Example: 64 Registered Fiat 500 1.2 Pop 3dr (Start Stop)

Representative Finance Example:			
47 Monthly payments of	£139.00	1 Final payment of	£4350.00
Customer deposit	£139.00	Option to purchase fee	£285.00
Fiat deposit contribution	£500.00	Total amount payable	£11522.00
Cash price (Inc VAT)	£10,100.00	Miles per annum	5,000
Duration	48 Months	Excess mileage charge	6.0ppm
Amount to finance	£9461.00	Fixed rate	4.24%
Interest charges	£1137.00	Representative APR	5.2%

64 Reg Seat Ibiza 1.4 Toca 3dr

£149 deposit & £149 per month

Finance Example: 64 Registered Seat Ibiza 1.4 Toca 3dr

Finance Example:			
59 Monthly payments of	£149.00	1 Final payment of	£3491.48
Customer deposit	£149.00	Option to purchase fee	£299.00
Cash price (Inc VAT)	£8,995.00	Total amount payable	£12486.48
Duration	60 Months	Miles per annum	6,000
Amount to finance	£8846.00	Excess mileage charge	2.19ppm
Interest charges	£3192.48	Fixed rate	10.7%
		APR	11.5%

Number Stoneacre Motor Group
/stoneacremotorgroup /stoneacremotors

SEAT FIAT

Plas Acton Road, Wrexham,
LL11 2UB
Tel: 01978 229450
www.stoneacre.co.uk

Christmas Opening Hours: Closed Christmas Eve, Christmas Day & Boxing Day, Sat 27th-Tues 30th Dec 8.30am-5.00pm, Sun 28th Dec 10.30am-4.30pm

Award Winning Motability Dealer
Motability The leading car scheme for disabled people
Martin Bell
Motability Specialist

We will buy your car for cash

All offers subject to terms and conditions and are as part of a Stoneacre finance plan. Finance provided subject to status, written details available on request. Models shown are for illustration purposes only. Ask for details. Cars may be in group stock.Stoneacre operate as an Independent finance Introducer from a panel of lenders. Stoneacre do not charge a fee for introduction to a finance provider however we may or may not receive a commission. Offers correct at time of going to press, but may be subject to change.

Charmley hat-trick gets Eagles flying again

A HAT-trick of tries from Steve Charmley helped Oswestry III end a losing streak on the road with to a 33-10 victory at Winnington Park III in the Freshlet North West League division five.

Charmley's endeavours saw him stand out as man of the match along with Alun Morris who proved a constant threat all game, and third team manager Craig Howell praised a fine all round team display.

"It was great to see the simple things being done well, they all did them selves proud as they ended a five game run of defeats with some quality performances," he said.

After five defeats on their travels, a fresh look to the team with some new players saw the Eagles dominate possession from kick-off with some fantastic carries from the forwards setting up the backs to pass the ball down the line and into space to Tom Booth to gallop through to score.

Oswestry's defence proved solid as Winnington Park started to get back into the game with some big hits going in all over the field and their persistence paid off with a try, also unconverted.

Pressure

Again from kick off, the Eagles looked strong and notched a second try when Dave Richardson broke off to off-load to Charmley who powered through to score.

But this lead was shortlived as the home side hit back again following a spell of pressure to level matters with an unconverted try.

The Eagles got their noses in front at the break with an Adam Lloyd penalty making it 13-10, while the visitors were forced to rejig their back line for the second period with ever reliable scrum half Mike Owen off with a bad gut, with 19 stone veteran forward Andy Gozzer coming in at inside centre.

Oswestry took control of the game in attack, Charmley soon getting his second of the game in similar fashion to his first before Lloyd landed another penalty for a 21-10 lead,

The pressure continued and resulted in Charmley popping up for his hat-trick before Alun Morris sealed victory when skipping through Park's defence with a darting run to score, with Lloyd converting to make the final score 33-10.

Good Evans Toby bags a hat-trick

TOBY Evans was among the goals again as he fired his third hat-trick of the season as Llanfair reserves continue to go well in the Montgomeryshire League division one with a 4-1 victory at Llangedwyn.

The marksman opened the scoring after only four minutes and made it 2-0 in the 11th minute with a terrific half volley as the visitors took charge.

Early in the second half, Llangedwyn pulled a goal back with a super strike before good work by Ashley Davies led to an own goal being scored to restore the two-goal cushion.

Evans then completed his hat-trick from the penalty spot with five minutes to go, taking his tally to 25 for the season.

Elite fighters tough it out

DESPITE showing plenty of heart, Ollie Morris suffered a narrow defeat as Team Elite in Oswestry competed at the Central Banqueting Suite in Wolverhampton.

Incorporating a mixture of boxing, wrestling, kickboxing, brazilian julitsu (BJJ) and submission wrestling, the elite mixed martial arts club continues go to from strength to strength.

And their latest round of action saw Morris come face-to-face with Luke Westwood, knowing he would face a tough task with both fighters looking in confident mood and undefeated.

In the end, the decision went to Westwood but, despite the disappointment, the Oswestry club member showed huge heart and did the club proud.

The first round looked to have gone against Morris, with both fighters showing good boxing skill, while both fighters gave good exchanges in the second round, although Westwood looked to have taken the honours.

Knowing he needed to up a gear to pull it back, the Oswestry club member was much more assertive in the third round but, despite his efforts, the decision went to Westwood, with Morris showing appreciation to his opponent despite the setback.

There were better fortunes for Irann Lane who, after a tough first few seconds against his opponent, came back to end the the first round with some punishing low kicks. He got a better rhythm in the second round, landed a take down and briefly mounted with some hard blows, before locking in an inverted triangle to secure the victory.

Team Elite are improving all the time with the coaches and fighters all putting in a lot of time to make sure that the fighters are well prepared when they step into action.

For more information see the club website or call Rich on 07970 856002.

■ Pictured: Fighters and coaches of Team Elite in Oswestry (from left): Gavin Davies, Irann Lane, Rich Cosgrove, Ollie Morris, Mick Broster

Eagles settle for draw as visitors in late fightback

WINGER Jack Fox continued his fine season with two tries, but Oswestry lost ground on the leaders in the South Lancs and Cheshire Two after being held 24-24 at home to Dukinfield who staged a thrilling fightback at Granville Park.

RUGBY UNION by John Bridgwater

The Eagles looked well placed to avenge a hefty defeat away from home earlier in the season when they led 24-12, but the Greater Manchester visitors hit back to level the scores, and it was only a missed conversion right at the end that denied them victory.

The hosts knew they were going to be in for a battle as Dukinfield went over for an early unconverted try in the first seven minutes, but home captain Andy Smith rallied his troops to get to grips with the opposition.

And good play by the forwards drove their visitors back, before excellent interplay between the forwards and backs provided quick ball from the rucks to release Gaz Hughes to score a fantastic team try, with Luca Owen-Youens converting.

Now in full battle mode, the Eagles unleashed their quick backs time and again to penetrate the Dukinfield lines, and they went close to another score when James Anderson set up the pacey Fox only for the referee to rule a forward pass.

However, more good forward play dragged the opposition into the ruck, with scrum-half Hamish Fuller letting loose a magnificent pass down the line through Tom Keaveny and Hughes to release the agile Fox who dazzled the visiting backs with his speed to score a super try which went unconverted for a 12-7 interval lead.

That advantage was soon wiped out in the second period when good play from the forwards saw Dukinfield pull level with an unconverted score.

The Eagles seemed to be letting this game slip away in the muddy and slippery conditions, often finding themselves penalised as the visitors started to gain the upper hand in the forward battle.

But the game appeared to turn in favour of the hosts when excellent play by Jamie Luckett and Mike Keaveney, gave captain Smith the chance to break through the lines to score a fantastic try, not converted, for a 17-12 lead.

And that advantage was extended when, after Zac Baldwin, Mike Davies and Gaz Ellis had stopped Dukinfield in their tracks, the backs came in to play to give the cunning Fox the chance to score another magnificent try on the wing with Owen-Youens converting.

Despite trailing 24-12, Dukinfield were in no mood to surrender with the forwards driving over the home line for a converted try and, with their tails up, pushed for a decisive score with time running out.

With the Eagles desperately defending their line, Baldwin was sent off for infringing to leave the hosts down to 14 men, giving the visitors the edge.

With just minutes to go, they scored another try to make it 24-24, but the conversion was missed as the two teams were left with a share of the spoils.

Seconds taking the positives from defeat

TEAM manager Joel Wilson was in upbeat mood despite Oswestry II suffering a 22-14 loss at county rivals Whitchurch III to lose ground in the Freshlet North West League division four (south).

Despite excellent tries from James Roberts and Tom Cockayne, the Eagles had little to show for their efforts, but the display augurs well for the rest of the season as they bid to build on their fifth place in the table.

"Oswestry can take lots of positives away from this hard fought game in which they showed great character with such a young team who kept going to the final whistle," said Wilson.

From the kick-off it was clear to it was going to be a forward-orientated game with bone crunching tackles going in from both sides. Opening exchanges saw the ball being turned over frequently but the experienced kicking of the Whitchurch scrum-half kept the home side camped in Oswestry's 22.

Whitchurch were first on the score sheet with a well worked and clearly well practised driving maul which the visitors' very young pack were unable to stop, with the try going unconverted.

This seemed to wake up the young Eagles pack and they enjoyed some good periods of possession in the Whitchurch half, including some terrific ball carrying by James Booth, Jake Northwood and birthday boy Fletcher Owen-Youens which started to punch holes in home defence.

That possession failed to count for much as it was the opposition who scored a second try resulting from some slick ball handling by their backs for the winger to go over in the corner for a converted touchdown.

Oswestry hit back with what must have been the try of the game right on half time when full-back and man of the match James Roberts collected a ball from high in the air, looked up at the defence and ran straight through them all.

A run which started deep in his own half, he raced past two forwards before beating the winger and full-back with a silky sidestep and turn of pace to go over unchallenged for a converted try.

The second half started much the same with Oswestry put under pressure from an experienced pack, but big tackles from Alistair Price and Rich McFie kept their opponents at bay.

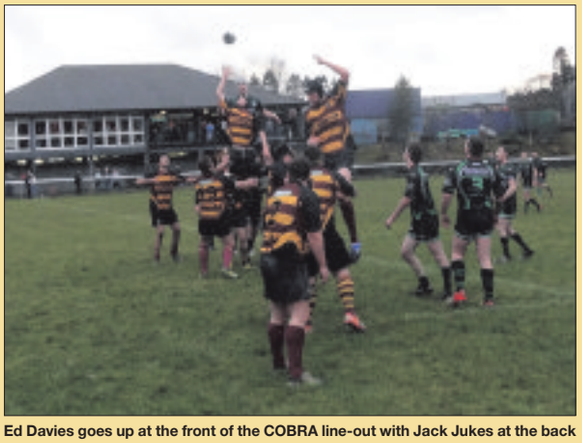
However, the pressure eventually paid of as Whitchurch then scored two tries in quick succession which all but settled the outcome as they moved ahead 22-7 with only 10 minutes to go.

Oswestry battled on to score the final try of the game. Again Roberts made good ground in the midfield, off-loaded to Northwood, who made a break for the line running 40 metres, only to be caught just five metres short.

But Oswestry recycled the ball from the ensuing ruck and fantastic ball skills by fly-half Kevin Evans saw a lovely pass go through the backs to Cockayne who finished off in the corner for a converted score.

COBRA slip out of North Wales Plate

COBRA new signing Rowan Swanson takes on the Bro defence. *Pics: Trevor Jones.*



Ed Davies goes up at the front of the COBRA line-out with Jack Jukes at the back

New-look side beaten

FORCED to field a makeshift side COBRA crashed out of the North Wales Plate with a 50-7 beating at Bro Ffestiniog in the quarter-final.

With survival in the Swalec League division one (north) their priority, the Meifod side rested several of their key players who have been struggling with injury in the past few weeks.

And they ended up well beaten against a Bro side who took their chances to run in eight tries to progress to the last four of the competition.

"The North Wales Plate is not high on our agenda, but we did not want to lose by that much," admitted coach Matt Griffiths.

"Its difficult when you have to make so many changes, we had five out in the pack and four in the back row, and we never really got going.

"It was a stop start affair, Bro had a few lucky tries, but our lads never let their heads drop."

The one bright moment for COBRA was a try from prop Hywel Jones late in the second half, which was converted by newcomer Rowan Swanson.

PLACINGS

Midland Regional Hockey Association

West Midlands 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Oswestry	10	8	1	1	55	16	25
Old Wulfrunians	9	8	0	1	42	11	24
Bloxwich	9	7	1	1	52	10	22
Pershore	9	6	0	3	33	29	18
Leamington	9	5	0	4	28	20	15
Newtown	10	4	2	4	24	25	14
Whitchurch	9	4	0	5	21	33	12
Droitwich	10	3	1	6	16	36	10
Evesham	9	3	0	6	20	34	9
Barlaston	10	1	1	8	16	48	4
Yardley	10	0	0	10	11	56	0

Creative Digital Shrewsbury Table Tennis

Premier Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Shrewsbury CC C7	5	1	1	170	81	53	
Shrewsbury CC B6	5	1	0	164	52	51	
Shrewsbury CC A5	5	0	0	147	24	49	
Prees Cricket/RC 6	3	0	3	109	111	28	
Shrewsbury CC D6	2	0	4	87	132	21	
Clive Saints	6	2	0	4	67	154	14
Unison A	6	1	0	5	61	153	14
Pontesbury A	6	0	0	6	62	160	10

Division 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Pontesbury C	6	6	0	0	146	80	43
Leebotwood	6	2	3	1	131	101	35
Myddle A	7	0	2	5	116	145	29
Belvidere A	4	2	1	1	84	76	24
Pontesbury B	5	2	1	2	94	98	24
Shrewsbury CC E4	3	0	1	77	75	22	
Unison B	4	2	0	2	73	77	19
Rushbury A	6	0	1	5	80	149	14

Division 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Rushbury B	6	6	0	0	164	41	52
Belvidere B	6	4	1	1	139	66	42
Rushbury C	7	3	3	1	142	109	41
Myddle B	7	3	2	2	135	109	38
Pontesbury D	4	2	2	0	94	43	30
Shrewsbury CC G5	1	0	4	7	110	102	20
Belvidere C	6	1	0	5	45	147	12
Belvidere D	7	0	0	7	26	199	5

Wheatland Indoor Cricket League

Division One

	P	W	T	L	P
Grasshoppers	6	6	0	0	36
Willey	6	4	0	2	24
Condover	6	4	0	2	24
Bomere Heath	6	3	0	3	18
Alberbury	6	1	0	5	6
Cae Glas	6	0	0	6	0

Division Two

	P	W	T	L	P
Shelton	6	6	0	0	36
Cound	5	4	0	1	24
Grove	5	3	0	2	18
Beacon	6	2	0	4	12
Rough & Tumblers	6	1	0	5	6
Church Stretton	6	1	0	5	6

English Rugby Clubs

Midlands 1 West

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Newport, Salop	13	13	0	0	610	147	64
Worcs Wdrs	13	11	0	2	444	150	53
Hereford	12	10	0	2	339	239	44
Stoke on Trent	13	8	0	5	386	272	42
Kenilworth	13	9	0	4	285	297	41
Crewe/N'wich	13	7	0	6	366	395	39
Walsall	13	6	1	6	334	328	33
Leek	13	6	0	7	334	409	32
Whitchurch	13	5	0	8	244	303	27
S'tord U Avon	13	5	1	7	291	270	24
Earlsdon	13	3	0	10	243	364	18
B'well/Balsall	13	3	1	9	161	372	15
Silhillians	12	1	1	10	236	425	13
Barkers Butts	13	1	0	12	197	499	8

Midlands 2 West North

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Bridgnorth	11	11	0	0	467	70	54
Old Saltleians	11	9	0	2	327	129	45
Moseley Oak	11	9	0	2	240	206	41
Wolverhampton	11	7	0	4	240	223	33
Camp Hill	11	6	0	5	288	215	32
S'bridge Lions	11	6	0	5	274	217	32
Shrewsbury	11	5	0	6	200	206	27
Kidderminster	11	4	1	6	293	329	25
Veseyans	11	4	0	7	215	369	20
Ludlow	11	3	0	8	156	378	15
Stafford	11	1	1	9	146	286	9
Tamworth	11	0	0	11	101	319	2

Midlands 3 West North

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Handsworth	11	10	1	0	497	159	53
Harborne	11	9	1	1	521	197	50
Eccleshall	10	7	0	3	390	159	38
N'castle, Staffs.	11	7	0	4	460	162	37
Willenhall	10	7	0	3	261	133	32
Edwardians	11	7	0	4	227	192	31
Burntwood	10	5	1	4	284	216	26
Wednesbury	11	4	0	7	300	326	21
Clee Hill	11	3	1	7	121	314	18
Bloxwich	11	2	0	9	186	308	13
Uttoxeter	10	1	0	9	53	462	4
Aston OE	11	0	0	11	30	702	0

Midlands 4 West North

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Cleobury M	10	10	0	0	467	39	49
Cannock	10	7	1	2	254	98	36
Barton-U-N'wd	10	7	0	3	295	180	33
Bishops Castle	10	7	0	3	174	136	33
Bromyard	10	6	0	4	294	218	30
Rugeley	10	5	0	5	186	186	27
Telford Hornets	10	5	0	5	196	160	25
Yardley & Dist	10	3	1	6	196	231	20
Mkt Drayton	10	2	0	8	78	284	10
Greyhound	10	1	0	9	122	387	5
Tenbury	10	1	0	9	67	410	4

Midlands 5 West North

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Church Stretton	7	7	0	0	301	83	34
Warley	7	5	0	2	146	98	26
Aldridge	7	4	1	2	220	140	24
Essington	8	4	0	4	184	111	21
Stourport	7	5	0	2	172	122	18
St Leonards	7	2	1	4	211	125	13
Chaddesley C	7	2	0	5	46	143	5
Whittington	7	2	0	5	64	244	4
B'ham B'arians	7	0	0	7	48	326	1

Northern Division

South Lancs/Cheshire Division 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Southport	14	13	0	1	375	177	57
Liverpool Coll	13	11	0	2	610	121	57
Tyldesley	13	10	0	3	457	191	50
Oswestry	13	10	1	2	313	259	50
Dukinfield	14	8	1	5	339	262	41
Ormskirk	14	8	0	6	333	295	39
Orrell	14	7	1	6	266	194	35
V'bonds IOM	13	6	0	7	419	347	32
Moore	12	6	1	5	330	294	32
Port Sunlight	14	3	1	10	264	371	23
Marple	14	3	0	11	255	327	19
Prenton	14	3	0	11	197	558	15
Ashton-on-M	14	2	1	11	147	389	13
Trentham	14	2	0	12	137	657	3

Welshpool golf ace is celebrating hole-in-one

A WELSHPOOL golfer had a "time" to remember when he scored a hole-in-one during a club competition – and his efforts were rewarded with a limited-edition BOSS watch as recognition for the achievement.

John Jones, 48, scored his ace on the 179-yard, par-three eighth at his home town course in Welshpool, and the six-handicapper was rewarded with membership of the exclusive BOSS Watches H1 Club and a specially-commissioned, commemorative timepiece.

The luxury German brand has once again pledged to reward club golfers with an exclusive watch for every hole-in-one recorded during a club competition in 2014 after giving away £600,000-worth of limited-edition mementos in 2013 – and Jones is among the latest to achieve the feat this year.

The scheme is open to any golfer whose club uses HowDidiDo – a free-to-use, web-based social network for golfers – and anybody playing in official club competitions is eligible. Currently, more than 1,800 clubs use the website.

Stephen Brydon, commercial director for MGS Distribution, the official licenced UK distributor for BOSS Watches, said: "Congratulations to John on achieving golf's Holy Grail of a hole-in-one.

"To the majority of amateur golfers, recording a hole-in-one will be the most memorable thing they achieve in golf – a once-in-a-lifetime experience probably – and we want to ensure they have much better memories than merely a dent in their bank balance after buying drinks in the clubhouse.

"The exclusive BOSS watch is available only to golfers who record a hole-in-one. It will provide a constant reminder of the achievement.

"We also hope it might add excitement to club competitions for golfers who may not be in with a chance of winning the event."

Draw made despite ties outstanding

EVEN though the third round hasn't been played, the draw has been made for the fourth round of Central Wales Cup.

It is: Abermule or Llansantffraid v Four Crosses or Aberystwyth University, Builth Wells or Machynlleth v Caersws or Montgomery Town, Churchstoke or Cardigan Town v Waterloo Rovers or Knighton Town, Kerry or Presteigne v Bow Street or Tregaron, Llanidloes Town or Bont v Tywyn Bryncrug or Carno, Llanrhaeadr or Welshpool Town v Aberaeron or Llanfair United, Penrhyncoch or Berriew v Guilsfield or Borth United, Rhosgoch or Llandrindod Wells v Rhayader Town or Hay St Marys.

■ Applications are being invited from the feeder league clubs who may wish to join the Spar Mid Wales League division two for next season. They have to be submitted to the Spar League secretary by Saturday, December 31.

All clubs who apply will have their ground inspected during January and February and informed of any necessary work to be done to meet the said criteria. This work will need to be completed by April, 30 2015.

Frame takes top player award as Llanfair march on

LLANFAIR United hot-shot Ross Frame has seen his rich vein of form recognised after landing the player of the month honour in the Spar Mid Wales League division one, ***writes JOHN BRIDGWATER.***

Frame has been a consistent goalscorer this season, topping the goal charts to help his side storm clear at the top of the table, and was justifiably named November's leading player after netting seven times in three league outings.

In all competitions he has scored 26 goals, but would be the first to admit he is benefitting from assists and the hard work throughout the team.

Frame was on the mark with one of the goals as Llanfair cemented their place at the summit of the table with a comfortable 6-1 win over basement side Aberystwyth University.

With closest rivals Rhosgoch without a game, the leaders are now 10 points clear at the top with James Davies leading the charge with a hat-trick, while Steve Andrew and Andrew Hughes notched the other goals.

Llanfair were one goal to the good in the first minute when Davies opened his account from a Paul Griffiths cross, and the lead was doubled three minutes later as Steve Andrew headed in a Davies corner. Davies set up Frame to make it 3-0 on 13 minutes and Davies got his second on the stroke of half-time before completing his treble 10 minutes into the second period.

The struggling students pulled one back through Tom Francis before Hughes completed the scoring for the hosts following a corner in injury time.

"It was another good weekend for us, but there is a long way to go with some tough games coming up, with Llanrhaeadr away on Boxing Day," said manager Rhys Stephens.

New signing Ian Edmunds scored twice on his debut as **LLANRHAEADR** stretched their unbeaten run to 10 games with a hard-fought 4-2 win at Bow Street.

The visitors had twice trailed to goals from Dean Evans and Matthew Pemberthy, going behind for the first time before Ben White's header levelled matters at the interval.

They trailed again in the second period, but rallied as Edmunds fired his first with a well taken strike before Emyr Roberts, making his return from injury, put his side in front when heading home a corner.

Edmunds then sealed the win with his second goal after good work on the right from Tom Evans.

Ricky Litchfield and Charlie Proctor both scored twice as **WATERLOO ROVERS** hit the goal trail with a 6-0 romp against Machynlleth at Maesydre, with Will Pritchard and Scott Holly also getting on the scoresheet.

BERRIEW gained a much-needed 3-2 home win over **FOUR CROSSES** to ease their basement concerns, Marc Jones scoring a brace and Rob Holliday getting the other. The visitors responded through Jack Brayne and Gaz Jones.

CARNO, whose boss Chris Davies took the first division manager of the month accolade, moved up to third after seeing off **MONTGOMERY** 4-1, with Sam Williams scoring two of the goals.

Sub Ben Richards and Peter Rees were also on target, with Elliot Jones gaining a late consolation for the visitors from the penalty spot.

WELSHPOOL pulled off a creditable 0-0 draw at title outsiders Penrhyncoch to cement their sixth place after staging a rearguard action on a heavy Cae Baker pitch.

The Lilywhites were forced to defend for long spells as they frustrated the hosts for whom Mattie Davies, Jon Foligno, Josh Shaw and Jonny Evans all went close. Elsewhere, Aberaeron eased to a 4-0 win over lowly Tywyn Bryncrug courtesy of goals from Gareth Evans, Sion Clarke, Jamie Butler and Gareth Lewis.

In division two, Abermule, whose David Anthony was named player of the month for November, ran amok 8-2 at **CHURCHSTOKE** while Knighton Town were also in the goals with a 6-1 romp at Penybont to move top of the table.

DYFFRYN BANW succumbed 4-1 at Builth Wells while struggling Talgarth suffered more woe as they went down by the same score at home to Newbridge.

Third placed Kerry secured a 2-1 victory at Borth United, while Presteigne's clash against Bont was abandoned due to a serious injury with Bont leading 1-0 at the time.

Five-star performance has New Saints boss purring

Port Talbot 1 The New Saints 5

COACH Carl Darlington admitted the Saints were at the top of the game as they cantered to a five-goal victory at Port Talbot to maintain their relentless title march in the Welsh Premier

Two first half strikes from Jamie Mullan put them on course in the first half, then Chris Marriott, top scorer Mike Wilde and Kai Edwards increased the margin after the break before Corey Thomas netted an injury time consolation despite strong claims for offside.

FOOTBALL by John Bridgwater

"We have tended to struggle at Port Talbot in the past, they've got a better home record than us in terms of points dropped this season, but we were outstanding," said coach Darlington.

"We have the best away record in the league, and we showed that with the way we played in our performance which was the best of the season in terms of all round play.

"It was 5-0, but it could have been 10 in the end, such was the way we played and the chances we created. We've now got a fantastic goal difference of 36, the next best is 14 so it's like having another point.

"The only disappointment was that they scored late on, we were fuming as it was three yards offside, and we pride ourselves on keeping clean sheets."

Darlington was also full of praise for rookie right back Ryan Pryce who looked the part in only his second league game of the season as he came in for Simon Spender who had been struggling with illness during the week.

The unbeaten Saints proved a dominant force throughout at the GenQuip Stadium, and made a lively start with Wilde heading against the bar from a Chris Seargeant free kick while Mullan fired wide from the edge of the box following a tricky run.

And it was no surprise that the league leaders took the lead in the 21st minute as Mullan slotted his first low past rookie keeper Connah McFenton after being played in by Adrian Cieslewicz.

After Aeron Edwards put another effort wide after sprinting clear, that lead was extended on 33 minutes when the flying winger Mullan doubled his account when smashing home his volley after latching onto Seargeant's excellent cross.

Port Talbot rarely threatened, although Martin Rose did fire wide when getting behind the defence, but there was no way back for the hosts once the defending champions bagged a third goal on the hour.

It came through Marriott who drilled home a low free kick, while the left back was denied a second moments later when McFenton pulled off a fine diving save to push another effort over the bar.

The Saints continued to dominate and a fourth goal arrived on 74 minutes when Wilde fired past McFenton, before Kai Edwards piled on more misery for the Steelmen when heading a fifth.

The one disappointment for the visitors was they failed to keep a clean sheet as Corey Thomas netted a late consolation with virtually the last kick despite claims for offside.

Welsh Premier League

	P	w	w	l	f	a	Pt
The New Saints	17	12	5	-	50	14	41
Bala Town FC	16	10	2	4	35	21	32
Aberystwyth T.	17	9	5	3	37	26	32
Airbus UK B	17	9	3	5	30	18	30
Carmarthen T.	16	7	3	6	22	26	24
Port Talbot Town	17	7	2	8	27	25	23
Newtown AFC	16	6	4	6	30	27	22
Cefn Druids	17	6	3	8	25	34	21
Gap C Quay	17	4	6	7	22	29	18
Rhyl FC	16	4	4	8	16	28	6
Prestatyn Town	17	3	3	11	25	49	12
Bangor City	17	1	4	12	17	38	7

■ It was goals galore in the second division of the West Mercian Regional Football League second division with no fewer than 61 being scored in just five fixtures.

Table toppers Highley Miners Welfare hammered lowly LLYNCLYS 14-1, with Craig Knowles hitting five and Josh Pitt four, while Adam Roberts managed a consolation

ST MARTINS Village, who lie just one place above Llynclys, were edged out 6-5 at Spalaig Britannia in another high scoring affair, with Oli Todd scoring twice for the victors.

Barton wins spot prize for Guilsfield

TOP scorer Danny Barton was again spot on as Guilsfield kept the pressure on the Cymru Alliance leaders with a comfortable 3-0 home success against Holyhead Hotspur.

After going ahead through Chris Cathrall on 20 minutes, Barton then struck twice with penalties at the end of each half to make it 17 goals so far for the seasoned striker.

With the Anglesey Islanders lacking any real firepower up front, it was the Guils who proved the greater threat as they took the game to the visitors, and went ahead when Cathrall launched a run before his curling strike from outside the box evaded keeper Carl Jones and found the back of the net.

The villagers were forced into making an early change with striker Adam Jenkins forced off due to a hamstring injury, and this led to a reshuffle with defender James O'Reilly coming on to lead the line alongside Barton.

Despite the loss of Jenkins, the Mid Wales hosts proved the stronger side throughout the match and doubled their advantage on the stroke of half-time when Barton converted from the spot after being tripped in the box as he shot on goal.

The second half again saw play dominated by the home side with James Henderson a tower of strength at the back, but clear cut chances were few and far between.

Although skipper Gareteh Jones was dismissed late on after picking up a second yellow card, the match ended with another home goal after O'Reilly, who had provided willing support for Barton, was fouled in the area and Barton stepped up convert his second spot kick to complete a comfortable victory.

■ Former Weshpool midfielder Chris Venables reached a special milestone when hitting his 100th Welsh Premier goal with a brace in Aberystwyth Town's 4-2 win at GAP Connah's Quay.

Rider Tomos is Olympic Apprentice

Llanymynech cyclist Tomos Owens is aiming for the very top of the sport

Llanymynech youngster gets Team GB chance

A TEENAGE cyclist from Llanymynech, who hopes one day to ride in the Olympics, has taken the first steps towards achieving his dream.

Tomos Owens, who at age 15, is the youngest rider of the Shrewsbury-based Paramount Performance Cycling Racing Team has been invited to become an Olympic Development Apprentice with the Great Britain Cycling Team.

The young rider from Llanymynech was chosen for the scheme after coaches recognised him as a skilful racer with potential to develop into a world class athlete.

As an apprentice the former under-12 British Circuit Series champion will be trained by British Cycling coaches and have access to world class facilities.

The scheme lasts one to two years and if Owens demonstrates continued progress and performance he will graduate onto the Olympic Graduate Programme and will be another step closer to realising his Olympic dreams.

The Year 11 Llanfyllin School pupil said: "I've not really had a great season so to be recognised by British Cycling for this apprenticeship scheme is amazing.

"I would love to compete in the Olympics one day. It would be absolutely awesome so this is one giant step closer to realising that ambition."

The youngster is used to putting in hours of training around his school studies but the apprenticeship will mean participating in regular 10-hour training days and workshops at Manchester Velodrome to improve skill and performance.

"It will be hard work but I'm really looking forward to it," said the young rider.

"I would spend all day every day on the bike if I could but I am doing my GCSEs this year so have to dedicate some time to study and revision."

Owens first got into cycling when he was just nine-years-old after being encouraged by his grandfather who was also a keen cyclist.

As well as becoming British champion Owens has also been the British Track Omnium champion twice and Welsh Omnium Champion. He also won the Welsh Road Championships when he was 10, 11, 12 and as a 13-year-old.

While competing in the Olympics would be a dream come true for Owens, who enjoys road cycling more than track riding, has his sights set on riding in the Tour of Flanders and in the Paris-Roubaix.

Ben Lawrence, managing director of Shrewsbury-based insurance broker Beaumont Lawrence, which sponsors the Paramount Performance CRT team, and the racing team manager, said: "Tomos is an extremely talented cyclist and this is a fantastic opportunity for him to improve his skill and performance on the bike.

"We will be fully supporting him throughout the apprenticeship and hope one day to see him in the Olympics."

■ The Paramount Performance Cycling Team is sponsored by Stan's Cycles.

PLACINGS

Mercian Regional Football League

Premier Division

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Telford Juniors	12	11	1	0	39	8	34
Hodnet	14	8	4	2	38	22	28
Oswestry Twn	14	8	2	4	38	19	26
W'church Alport	12	8	2	2	31	17	26
Allscott	14	6	4	4	32	21	22
Well'ton Am Res	13	6	3	4	26	20	21
Shifnal Utd 97	14	5	5	4	29	21	20
Childs Ercall	14	5	4	5	38	27	19
A B'north Res	13	6	0	7	24	37	18
Ketley Bank Utd	13	5	1	7	29	36	16
Prees	16	4	4	8	28	37	16
Wroxeter Rovers	11	4	1	6	28	25	13
Church Stretton	16	3	3	10	24	27	12
Madeley Sports	14	3	2	9	22	44	11
Weston Rhyn	10	0	0	10	4	69	0

Division 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
A Broseley	15	13	0	2	63	15	39
W'wardine Wd	10	9	1	0	40	11	28
D'ton Com S&S	11	7	2	2	42	25	23
Rock Rovers	13	7	1	5	51	36	22
Clee Hill Utd	12	6	2	4	37	22	20
W'dine Wd Jnrs	15	4	5	6	26	37	17
Bishops Castle	14	5	1	8	27	39	16
Brown Clee	11	4	3	4	23	35	15
Claverley	13	4	1	8	28	45	13
Oakengates Rgrs	15	3	2	10	22	52	11
A Wellington	11	2	1	8	19	43	7
Impact Utd	10	1	1	8	17	35	4

Division 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Highley MW	16	14	0	2	78	15	42
Gobowen Celtic	13	9	1	3	70	23	28
Stoke Heath	12	9	1	2	59	23	28
Belvidere	14	9	1	4	61	31	28
Spalaig Britannia	13	8	2	3	51	32	26
Shifnal Harriers	14	6	5	3	52	34	23
Albrighton Jns	15	6	3	6	56	39	21
Riverside	14	5	3	6	42	33	18
Broseley Res	14	4	6	4	32	22	16
W'church A Res	14	3	3	8	30	49	12
St Martins Village	14	3	2	9	43	52	11
Llynclys	12	1	1	10	16	66	4
Denso	15	0	0	15	11	182	0

Huws Grays Alliance

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Llandudno	17	13	2	2	52	16	41
Guilsfield	16	11	2	3	40	21	35
Caernarfon Town	15	10	2	3	47	14	32
Porthmadog	16	10	2	4	39	18	32
Denbigh Town	17	9	3	5	33	29	30
Buckley Town	16	8	3	5	33	24	27
Caersws	16	7	5	4	39	30	26
Holyhead Hotspur	16	7	4	5	23	20	25
Flint Town United	18	7	2	9	21	31	23
Conwy Borough	16	7	2	7	29	22	23
Mold Alexandra	17	6	3	8	34	31	21
Rhayader Town	17	5	5	7	25	23	20
Penycae	17	5	4	8	33	39	19
LlanidloesTown	17	3	1	13	27	51	10
Llandrindod Wells	15	1	2	12	13	51	5
Rhydymwyn	16	1	0	15	11	79	0

Spar Mid Wales League

DIVISION 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Llanfair United.	12	13	2	0	66	25	41
Rhosgoch	15	9	4	2	35	26	31
Carno	15	9	2	4	41	22	29
Llansantffraid V	17	8	4	5	30	29	28
Penrhyncoch	12	7	4	1	28	9	25
Welshpool Town	16	6	6	4	32	33	24
Llanrhaeadr	12	7	2	3	34	24	23
Bow Street	14	6	4	4	28	27	22
Waterloo rRov.	15	6	4	5	37	31	22
Machynlleth	15	6	2	7	25	37	20
Four Crosses	16	5	3	8	32	36	18
Aberaeron	16	5	2	9	30	38	17
Berriew	17	4	3	10	28	43	15
MontgomeryT	14	2	2	10	19	28	8
T Bryncrug	14	2	2	10	25	48	8
Aber Univ	15	1	0	14	17	54	3

DIVISION 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Knighton Town	13	11	1	1	58	12	34
Hay St Marys	13	11	0	2	56	27	33
Kerry	13	10	0	3	37	21	30
Builth Wells	16	8	3	5	43	27	27
Churchstoke	15	8	1	6	43	50	25
Abermule	14	8	0	6	49	33	24
Bont	14	6	1	7	33	36	19
Borth United	12	6	0	6	30	29	18
Newbridge	14	5	0	9	27	40	15
Dyffryn Banw	13	4	2	7	26	30	14
Presteigne	11	3	2	6	27	38	11
Talgarth Town	17	3	0	14	23	81	9
Penybont	15	2	0	13	32	60	6

Watson Financial Mid Wales League (South)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Carno Res	15	10	2	3	50	21	32
Radnor Valley	12	10	1	1	49	17	31
Rhayader T res	15	10	1	4	39	17	31
Hay St Marys R	11	9	2	0	35	10	29
Knighton T Res	13	8	1	4	59	14	25
L'dod Wells Res	16	6	3	7	35	29	21
St Harmon	15	6	2	7	33	39	20
LlanidloesT Res	13	6	1	6	31	19	19
Newcastle	11	4	4	3	37	28	16
Sennybridge	12	7	0	5	30	22	15
Presteigne Res.	13	4	0	9	19	51	12
Builth Wells Res	17	3	1	13	34	66	10
B Northcote	14	2	2	10	30	56	8
Talgarth T Res.	13	0	0	13	5	67	-6

Welsh Beef & Lamb Mid Wales Youth League

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Llanidloes Town.	3	3	0	0	12	1	9
Llanfair United	3	2	0	1	12	3	6
Machynlleth	3	1	1	1	9	5	4
Llandrindod Wells	5	1	1	3	9	20	4
Bow Street	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
Waterloo Rovers	5	1	0	4	9	25	3

Popyk to step down as Crosses manager

NICK Popyk admitted it was a tough decision to step down as manager at Four Crosses following a tough first half of the season in the Spar Mid Wales League division one.

Crosses, who lost 3-2 at Berriew last weekend, are currently lying a modest 11th in the table, with 18 points from 16 outings, including eight defeats, and have often not been able to field their strongest side.

With a new son, Max, born at the beginning of the season, Popyk - who had been in charge for four and a half seasons - decided now was the right time to let someone else take the reins.

"Stepping down is one of the hardest footballing decisions I have had to make," he said.

"It's a great club with a very hard-working committee and I have made some good friends here. "However, I feel it's in the best interests of everyone to make this decision now as I feel I need a bit of a break.

"I'd like to thank everyone who played for me during my four and a half seasons and everyone who is connected with the club. I have had some great memories and hope they do too."

Club secretary Gareth Jones said the club was disappointed, but understood his decision.

"Nick has just had a new baby and family commitments come first," he said. "He hasn't ruled out the possibility of a different role in the club, but wants to take his planned holiday over Christmas without the worries of management.

"We of course thank him for all of his dedication and efforts. He has moved the club forward massively."

Guils keep their focus

GUILSFIELD boss Mike Parry believes it's still too early to talk of a possible title challenge in the Cymru Alliance despite a tremendous first half of the season.

But Parry, whose side have reached the semi-final of the Huws Gray League Cup, is cautious with half of the season remaining.

"Until you get down to the last 10 games you can't really think about the title as things can quickly change," he said. "It's only then you can work out who the other challengers are, who they've got to play, and where teams are likely to pick up or drop points."

TNS coach Carl Darlington

TNS seek maximum festive points

THE New Saints will hope to make merry over the festive season as they look to take a giant stride towards retaining the Welsh Premier crown.

Already with a sizeable lead at the top, the Saints now face Cefn Druids at home on Boxing Day and then away on New Year's Day as they set their sights on a maximum return against the league newcomers.

With a trip to struggling Prestatyn Town the following week, coach Carl Darlington believes it could prove a crucial phase of the season as the defending champions chase a ninth crown, and fourth in a row.

"If we can win these games, then we would be in a really strong position for the second half of the season," he said "But we certainly won't be taking anything for granted as all these games are going to be tough as everybody's chasing points as much as us. We're up there to be shot down, and with that brings added pressure, but we're hungry for success."

The Saints have two players on loan at Cefn Druids, midfielders Ryan Edwards and Ryan Kershaw, and the duo likely to be permitted to play against their parent club.

Fuming

Meanwhile, TNS maintained the momentum with their 5-1 romp at Port Talbot, which put them in good heart for last Saturday's top of the table showdown with Bala Town.

"We have the best away record in the league, and we showed that with the way we played in our performance which was the best of the season in terms of all round play," said Darlington.

"It was 5-1, but it could have been 10 in the end, such was the way we played and the chances we created. It was also pleasing we had four different scorers.

"The only disappointment was that they scored late on. We were fuming as it was three yards offside, and we pride ourselves on keeping clean sheets."

Darlington was also full of praise for rookie right back Ryan Pryce, 17, who looked the part in only his second league start of the season after coming in for Simon Spender who had been struggling with illness during the week.

"He was outstanding, not fazed at all and he definitely looks one for the future," added the coach.

Hockey side take break before title cruncher

AFTER a free-scoring first half of the season, Oswestry's hockey players now take a well-earned break before starting 2015 with a potential title decider at Old Wulfrunians.

The border side finished the year on a high with a resounding 4-0 victory at Droitwich, despite being a player short and several of the team feeling under the weather.

That victory lifted them top of the West Midlands League division one, one point ahead of Old Wulfs who, with a game in hand, will be the biggest threat to their hopes of lifting the crown.

The Wulfs won 8-1 when the sides met on the opening day of the season, but Oswestry were well below strength that day, and have since reeled off eight wins and a draw from nine games. They have scored 55 goals.

The border club now take a break, before resuming hostilities with their crunch showdown at Old Wulfrunians on January 17, which could well decide the destination of the crown.

Oswestry finished a successful first half of the season with a 4-0 win at Droitwich, but it was not plain sailing at first as the visitors only had 10 players, while some of the team were struggling with the effects of a festive night out.

Keeper Dave Prince was forced into some good saves to deny the hosts in the first half, before Jack Morgan broke the deadlock just before interval.

Once the lead was doubled after the break, the Droitwich challenge faded and the visitors finished comfortable winners, with Morgan going on to net a hat-trick, and Sam Davies getting the other.

For New Saints match reports over the festive period go to Shropshirestar.com/sport

EAGLES TRAINING OVER CHRISTMAS

OSWESTRY'S rugby players won't be overdoing the Christmas festivities as they bid to keep themselves in shape for a crucial clash at one of their chief rivals Liverpool Collegiate early in the New Year.

With promotion from the South Lancs and Cheshire Two firmly in their sights this season, the high-flying Eagles are determined not to lose their focus during the festive break as they go three weeks without a game.

by John Bridgwater

They would have been disappointed to allow a lead to slip in their 24-24 draw at home to Manchester club Dukinfield last week, and know they cannot afford to let their fitness levels drop ahead of their big showdown away to their promotion rivals Collegiate on Saturday, January 3.

A glance at the table shows the importance of the encounter, with Oswestry now in fourth spot after their draw in their last action of the year, seven points behind their Mersey hosts who share top spot with Southport.

Revenge

Such is their determination to keep themselves in their best shape, the squad will be training hard over the festive period, and even plan a workout on New Year's Day.

The Os have already defeated Liverpool Collegiate at Granville Park at the start of the season, but know that their rivals will be out for revenge as they endeavour to keep their own challenge on the boil.

"You can be sure that Liverpool Collegiate will be training hard, so we have to make sure we're also fully prepared for what is going to be a very important game to start the second half of the season," said team manager Martin Ord.

"It's a game we need to win, but they will be thinking the same, so there's a lot riding on it.

"There are no ifs or buts, promotion is certainly our aim this season, and at the moment it's anybody's league with nothing to choose between the top four.

"We will be training hard, and look at ways we can improve our game, although we are happy with the way the team is going at the moment."

The Eagles have been given a helping hand by the nearby Moreton Hall School who have allowed the club to use their astro turf to train during the past month.

Oswestry would have been disappointed to drop points in their 24-24 draw at home to Dukinfield, particularly having been 24-12 up. In the end, they were fortunate that the visitors missed a conversion to win them the game.

"It was our fault in the end, we did not stick to the game plan and conceded too many penalties," added Ord.

The contribution of New Zealanders, flanker Zac Baldwin and scrum half Hamish Fuller, has been immense this season, although the Eagles will need to be more ruthless in taking their point-scoring chances if they are to maintain their challenge in the second half of the season.

Flying winger Jack Fox, who scored two tries against Dukinfield, misses the New Year showdown, but Oswestry have signed another winger, Adam Faulkner, who could come into contention.

Northern Division

South Lancs/Cheshire Division 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Southport	14	13	0	1	375	177	57
Liverpool Coll	13	11	0	2	610	121	57
Tyldesley	13	10	0	3	457	191	50
Oswestry	13	10	1	2	313	259	50
Dukinfield	14	8	1	5	339	262	41
Ormskirk	14	8	0	6	333	295	39
Orrell	14	7	1	6	266	194	35
V'bonds IOM	13	6	0	7	419	347	32
Moore	12	6	1	5	330	294	32
Port Sunlight	14	3	1	10	264	371	23
Marple	14	3	0	11	255	327	19
Prenton	14	3	0	11	197	558	15
Ashton-on-M	14	2	1	11	147	389	13
Trentham	14	2	0	12	137	657	3

■ **For match reports on Oswestry's three sides see page 38**

Oswestry are reaching for the sky

Up he goes – Gaz Ellis jumps for the ball from an Oswestry line-out as Jamie Luckett waits for the knock-down with Zac Baldwin behind (left) during the 24-24 draw with Dukinfield at Granville Park

NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING
Recycled paper made up 78% of the raw material for UK newspapers in 2012.

Published by the Oswestry Chronicle and printed by Shropshire Newspapers Limited, Ketley, Telford. Registered at the P.O. as a newspaper. Price when sold 50p